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No. 303

THE LOST SHIP.

BY T. C. HARBAUGH.

- A hundred fathoms deep she lies
 Beneath the Arctic wave;
 Above her masts the sea-gull flies—
 Above the good and brave,
 And many watch, with moistened eyes,
 For the good ship Architrave.
- No human eye beheld her doom, But time the story tells; The merchant in the counting-room Turns to the tolling bells That echo but the cannon's boom: What thoughts the sound compels!
- Those same bells rung a merry peal When from the northern port The Architrave, with new-laid keel, Sailed by the antique fort. A thousand voices wished her weal, And a voyage calm and short.
- To Greenland's ice-bedizened coasts The Architrave was bound;
 There icebergs grim, like sheeted ghosts,
 The good ship gathered round;
 She fied! the hyperborean hosts
 Pursued without a sound!
- They conquered in the fight forlorn,
 Her snowy sails were furled,
 Her starry banner, rent and torn,
 Into the deep was hurled.
 That lovely emblem she had borne
 In triumph round the world!
- A hundred fathoms deep she lies
 Beneath the boreal wave;
 The loneliest of winter skies
 Make twilight o'er her grave;
 Oh! pray ye all with moistened eyes
 For the men of the Architrave.
- In peace they sleep, their common grave
 Her own broad deck so true;
 None braver wear beneath the wave
 Our nation's honored blue.
 God rest thee, good ship Architrave!
 God rest thy gallant crew!

Happy Harry, THE WILD BOY OF THE WOODS:

The Pirates of the Northern Lakes.

BY OLL COOMES,

AUTHOR OF "IDAHO TOM," "DAKOTA DAN,"
"BOWIE-KNIFE BEN," "OLD HURRICANE,"
"HAWKEYE HARRY," ETC., ETC.

CHAPTER VIII-CONTINUED.

The following night found the young spy-still in the camp of the enemy, and as they all gathered in the great subterranean chamber after supper, Kale turned to him and said:

hours?" "I never could sing, govenir, for shucks; or all I love music. But, boys, I'll tell you: for all I love music. Bel hazzar can sing better than I can. He can sing like a lark, he can, for a joyous fact. got a good voice for music, boys, strange as it may seem, and I'll bet any man here that he can sing a thundering good lick for a big

dog."
"I'l take that bet," said one of the men, "and I'll put up my rifle against the old

dog."
"It's a whack, by the holy pokers!" exclaimed Harry. "It's not often I bet, but when a man comes up that way and names the terms, I can't crawfish. Yes, stranger, it's

A dim twilight pervaded the cavern, and the faces of the men could be but indistinctly seen. Some of them were sitting, others lying about in attitudes of ease and repose Harry himself sat leaning against a huge stalagmite on the shadowy side. His dog lay curled up, a rod or two away.

You have all heard the bet, have you. boys?" asked the lad's opponent, who felt cer tain of some fun at Harry's expense. Yes, yes," responded his companions.

"I've been wantin' a good gun some time," said Harry. "And I've been wanting a good dog-skin,"

answered the man, and his companions laughed at his remark "To-whit to-who!" suddenly rung through the cavern. It was the startling cry of an owl. It was so distinct and harsh in its into-

nations that the men held their breath and listened - many looking completely frightened. A moment's silence ensued. The men lis tened intently for the repetition of the sound. Belshazzar rose upon his haunches and

barked, his deep bass voice sounding through the chambers of the cavern like the boom of Then a strange sound floated through the place; it was the far-off sound of music—of

some one singing a plaintive song. The men looked from one to the other in blank astonishment. The music grew louder, came nearer. Oc-

casionally the listeners could distinguish a word or two. "By heavens, it's the dog! You have lost, Talbot," said Kirby Kale.

The sound seemed to issue from the very lips of the dog, true enough. Every one would have sworn that it did. The singing lasted for full two minutes, then

it ceased and the dog laid down.
"I'll take the rifle," said the boy. Talbot could make no reply. eechless, and so were his friends. But soon

Harry was a ventriloquist! "Ha! ha!" laughed Captain Kale; "well

all recovered. They saw through the mystery

done, my lad; well done!" "Bravo! Bravo!" responded his men.



Surrender or I'll blow your head off!

CHAPTER IX.

HARRY'S BLACK SWAMP YARN. HAPPY HARRY was a wonderful mimic, as well as ventriloquist, and he spent several hours with the band, illustrating his powers. He did so more to gain their confidence than for any other purpose. The more he amused and entertained them the less reserved they became toward him. Fully satisfied that Long Beard was safe, he resolved to be in no particular hurry about getting away, at least, not until he had found the object of Kirby

than once with the buzzing of bees and the hissing of serpents. He seemed to have been endowed with an especial gift from nature, which his wildwood associations and daily practice had fully developed.

"You are possessed of a wonderful gift, Harry," said Kale. "I have seen persons be-Harry," said Kale. "I have seen persons be-fore now who could imitate birds and beasts and throw their voice away in different direc tions, but have seen none to be compared with

"That's good praise, captain," replied Harry; "I know I've a fine thing of it, but I never boast of what I can do. I find it real handy to be able to mock things and to plant my voice around here and there. It's helped me out of mor'n one difficulty, it has, for a fact. And then, I made a big thing out of it onct, and I'll tell you how it was. You've heard of Red Satan, the Swamp Thief, reckon? Well, at any rate, he war the most owdacious cut-throat that walked the footstool, them days. He infested the big Black Swamp 'bout a hundred and fifty miles below here, and made a business of stealin' little chil-dren and big girls, and hidin' 'em in the swamp and holdin' 'em for ransom. Great, hoppin' hornits, but he was a sly one—wusser than an Itallian brigand. All the powers on earth couldn't capture him. The settlers finally got ome blood-hounds and tried to hunt down, but one day they found them dead on the outlaw's trail. They tried to trap him in every way possible. They searched the swamps through and through, from Maumee to Sandusky. They hunted the woods to Sandusky. They couldn't find Red Satan. I alers believed, boys, that he had lots of I alers believed, boys, that he had lots of I alers believed, boys, that he had lots of friends among his many enemies, else he couldn't have got away so slick every time.

"Finally, people got tired of payin' him ransoms, although he war always honest enough to give up the child or gal, all right, soon as the cash war deposited in a certain But he kept on with his deviltry till first thing we knowed, two children and a young girl war missin' from the settlement, and notice found demandin' ever so much ran som for their safe return. Of course all knowed that Red Satan war at the bottom of it, though there was no name to the notice People, however, concluded to pay the reward for him instead of the children, and so a big thing war offered to the man or men that would take the swamp-devil alive. In course they wanted him taken alive and then they could make him tell where the children were concealed; but if he war killed outright they might never find them. Wal, I wasn't a man, but I concluded I'd take a hand in the hunt, and so struck out for the big swamp. For two weeks I waded and plunged and crashed through the awful wildnerness, like a mad fact. alligator, and what should I do but find the den of the old tiger, Red Satan. It war in a little idiot, how long's them other brats been part of the swamp where the settlers declared gone? I told the gentle ole tiger that they'd if the messenger from General Brock does not

"Harry, can't you sing us a song to pass the urs?"

Kale in lying in concealment there.

The youth could imitate the cry of any bird bound me and chucked me off into the loft, He started his auditors more chucklin' over the idea of another child for ransom. But, great, hoppin' hornits! they didn't know thar wasn't a soul in the north that'd pay a dollar for the Wild Boy, as old fellers said would come to some bad 'eend.' But up in the loft, whar they confined me, war the two missin' children and the young woman belongin' to the settlement. In course, Belshazzar was with me, but they didn't chuck him off for a ransom. They jist went sweet on him and concluded to adopt him, and keep him at the cabin. I war glad of this, for I war mortal afraid they'd kill him.

"Well, they kept me in that place nearly a week and almost starved the daylights out of my body. Them little children and the big gal fared lots better because they wasn't boys; out they took on awfully. I told 'em to take it easy as possible and mebby all'd turn out right yet. But it run along about eight days efore Red Satan and his conspirator, Vardocq, left the cabin. When I war sure they war gone, I called to Belshazzar, whom they'd left locked in the room below. The old hero answered with a bark, and, after several atempts, he succeeded in springin' up into the loft, which wasn't over five feet high. I made him chaw my bonds off in a jiffy, then I set the three captives free. So far things'd worked charmingly, but now come the tug: the three captives were so weak they couldn't hardly stand up, and I didn't know what to do with them; but do somethin' I must. I couldn't get them out of the swamp before danger was likely to come upon us, so what was I to do? At last I concluded to hide 'em and play nenanigan on ole Satan and his imp. hid 'em in his bed—a big pile of reeds and swamp-grass covered with blankets in a dark You see, I removed some of the feathers' and substituted the captives' bodies, so's the bed wasn't no bigger. This done, I deliberately set down and waited till ole Satan and his left-bower come home. Great, hoppin' hornits! then you'd ort to see that brimstone-pitian howl and swear. He frothed and foamed and blubbered. He asked me what I was doin' there, and where the others war. I told him that the big gal had got oose and had freed the rest of us, and had fled loose and had freed the rest of the actually got with the two little children. He actually got for not goin' too. I told mad and cussed me for not goin' too. him my scruples of honesty forbid my desertin' I told him I kind a wanted to stay with him and adopt him as my father, for I poor lone orphan. I sobbed and snuffled and slobbered a little to give my words an air of truth. The tears just boiled out of my eyes to show how I was affected, but I come doggone near overdoin' the thing and gittin' too much tobacco dust in my eyes. But, blessed if ole Satan and his tulip didn't melt te'rds me. My tears brought them; it did, for a tender

"Then father Satan wanted to know, 'you

no human bein' could penetrate, let alona live.
But I found that the old Satan was not alone
—that he had a partner, and that partner war
none other than Arlow Vardocq an Indian
trader, who was well respected at the settlement.

"Bed Satan was his anough to gat me teto."

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"Bed Satan was not alone
lickety-to-brindle out into the swamp. We
hunted and hunted for their trail, but somehow or other we couldn't find it. Ole Satan
just swore a blue streak; he did, for a hard
fact. But I for one we heard a cry off

through the swamp. Ole Satan fell down once, and nighly bu'sted hisself; but he jumped up, give hisself a spiteful jerk, and launched away again. I follered close behind—me and Bell. Vardocq puffed on half a mile behind. But, somehow or other we couldn't overtake them fugitives to save us. Finally old Satan stopped to listen, and blest if we didn't hear that child's cry again off some distance to the left. With a snort the swamp angel plunged away in that direction; me and Belshazzar followed, ready to burst with laughter. Great hornits! how ole Sate did smack his big feet on the earth, and sweat and swear!—whew! it was awful to hear the old galvanized monster. Every time he stopped to listen he could hear that child's cry, and so he kept on and on for more'n five miles. At length we came to the edge of a sloo, and had to cross an opening of several rods before reaching the timber beyond. A creek separated the swamps and woods also. On the edge of the marsh ole Purgatory stopped and listened, and dogged if we didn't hear it cry over in the timber. Away waltzed the father of sin. He come to the creek and made a leap, but his foot slipped and he fell plump into the water. Great Jehovah, boys! couldn't help it-I laffed right out! But ole Brimstone didn't know it war me that laffed-I guess he thought it war the big gal that had seen him tumble in the water. The old Nick scrambled out the crick, cussin' till the trees around him trembled. He rushed into the woods like mad, and what do you s'pose greeted his satanic ears?

"Another child-cry," replied Captain Kale. "Nary cry. It war, 'stand, villain!' and a dozen men with leveled rifles emerged from the thick undergrowth and surrounded him. Not until that moment did the deluded Satar suspect me of having led him into a trap. He turned and looked toward me, and I tell you that look was ole salter. I'll never forgit itnever. He drew his knife and made one sweep to'rds me, but he was so furious that he overreached hisself and fell—fell onto his own knife, which let the daylight out of him. this Vardocq put in an appearance and was nabbed. Then I led the men back to the cabin and got the captives. Poor things! they war nighly gone when we rescued them. But you see, boys, my gift done the world some good that time, for I was the child that done the cryin' through the swamp. Well, that was quite an adventure for a

boy," said Kirby Kale. It was, for a ginuine fact, captain; but I've been in lots worse scrapes than that. Thus, for some time, Happy Harry amused

the band with thrilling stories of his own adventures, but finally, growing tired, he rolled aimself in a blanket and went to sleep, most of the men following his example. Before retiring, Captain Kale turned to three of his men who were preparing to leave

the cave, and said: "Have every thing in readiness, boy, and

arrive by midnight, we will embark for the Seven Islands."

Happy Harry heard the order, for all he was apparently asleep. And long before midnight came, the Wild Boy was missing. Search was at once made through the cavern, but neither boy nor dog could be found; both had made their escape!

CHAPTER X.

HARRY AT HIS OLD TRICKS.

HAPPY HARRY had made his escape from the cavern a few minutes after the last man had retired to his couch. He saw that he had effectually thrown the band off its guardthat it exercised no watch over him, and pos-sessed of sufficient information to establish the sessed of sunceens information to establish the true character of the men, he concluded now was the time to escape. This he effected by swimming out of the mouth of the cavern and across to the opposite side of the bay. Here he secured his weapons, which he had concealed he fore venturing into the cavern and heat a he secured his weapons, which he had concealed before venturing into the cavern, and beat a hasty retreat northward along the bay. He pushed rapidly on until assured that the distance between him and the cavern placed him beyond danger, when he came to a halt.

Being somewhat tired and worm he sought a

Being somewhat tired and worn he sought a Being somewhat tired and worn he sought a good place for rest, and lying down soon fell asleep. He slept soundly till morning. He did not wake till the sun was up. Then he arose to a sitting posture and rubbed his eyes. A bird sung in the tree-top above. He imitated its song. It chirped as if calling to a mate; Harry answered, and the bird came nearer.

Thus for some time he amused himself imitating the cry and song of birds, and his answers were to the ears of the feathered songsters what the eyes of the serpent are. It seemed magnetic—to draw them toward him.
There seemed to be a fascination in his voice
that they could not resist, for they gathered
around in evidence of the fact. They alighted
in the tree-top overhead, and in the bushes. They sung and twittered, and flew from bough to bough, peeping down at him with their diamond-bright eyes. They appeared as if de-

sirous of approaching nearer, and yet afraid.

A pair of meek-eyed doves sat on a limb nearest the youth. A blue-jay took a position on the tip of a swaying bush. A frisky little robin swayed among the verdant foliage. A pheasant drummed on a log. A live old wood ment.

"Red Satan war big enough to eat me tetotally up, and when I bolted right into his den
onto him, I thought I'd follered my last trail.

He jist got up and catterpillared. Holy
pokers, how he champed his bits and cavorted!
He and his pard jist almost snatched me baldheaded, they did, for a painful fact. They

""That they are,' roared the gentle-lunged
Satan, and great hornits! how he went asmashin' through them reeds! I tell ye, it
sounded as though a hurricane was sweeping

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Satan, and great hornits! how he went asmashin' through them reeds! I tell ye, it
sounded as though a hurricane was sweeping out of a hole in a tree hard by, curled its tail upon its back, reared upon its hind feet, and

egarded the surroundings with a critical eye. And lying upon his back, Harry gazed upon all with an eye of admiration. He was su-premely happy. He felt that his society was courted by these innocent inhabitants of the wildwood. He loved them, and the greatest oy of his life was to be surrounded by them. When he was lonesome—when a vague feeling of unrest took possession of him-he called the birds. They would always come at his call, and their presence filled the unknown void in his young heart. They seemed to have, of him, none of that instinctive fear which causes the birds of the air and the beasts of the field to shrink from the presence of man. There appeared to be a mutual and sympathetic conord of love between Harry and the birds. There must have been some visible resemplance in their instinct and existence. It is true, Harry possessed a human heart susceptible of the tenderest emotions, a mind capable of thought and reason of unusual intelligence. And yet, he had been brought up in the woods, as it were, from infancy. had been his daily and most constant companions, and he naturally partook of their nature. He never killed a bird, nor did he slay an animal unless absolutely necessary for the maintenance of life. He had learned to regard them as fellow-beings. But Harry knew his enemies, both human and beast. This knowledge, in most cases, was instinctive. He often met strangers whom he felt at a glance were enemies, and he was seldom wrong. His education combined both human reason and animal instinct. The latter often led him into doing things without the will's volition. He knew the language of the birds and ani-

mals to some extent, for the birds and animals do have a language. He knew by its cry whether a bird sought its mate or not. He knew by its song whether it was one of sadness or joy. He knew by its movements whether danger was near; and all this he had learned by association with them, just as we learn the ways and habits of others by mingling in their society.

For fully an hour the youth lay upon the earth, mimicking the different songsters and chattering with the squirrel, all the while his boyish face radiant with delight. The doves nodded their heads to him and cooed softly; the blackbirds chattered gayly and flashed and flapped their wings of scarlet and yellow in the bright morning sun; the pheasant ruffled her feathers, shook the dew and arranged her morning toilet with all the vanity of a fastidious belle. The red head of the comic old woodpecker was thrust shyly above or under the dead limb, now and then, like a bashful boy peering around a corner; the squirrel frisked in and out of its home, up and down the tree, and sprung from bough to bough, as though conscious of Master Harry's

admiration. Suddenly, however, the doves craned their

woodpecker dropped from his perch as if shot, flapped his wings and staggered off through the air as no other bird ever flies. The squirrel darted into his hole, and Harry was alone He rose quickly to his feet. Belshazzar sniffed The elatter of hoofs broke upon the the air. silence. A man on horseback emerged from the woods and drew rein within twenty feet of our hero. In one hand he held a cocked pistol, which he leveled at Harry's head and called out:

"Surrender, or I'll blow your 'ead off !" The man wore a military cloak and a military air. Under the one was the uniform of a British officer, under the other a murderous intent.

"Great, hoppin' hornits, stranger!" exclaimed the boy, seeing the predicament he was in, "you needn't repeat that demand. If you want to be encumbered with trundle-bed trash, just take me a prisoner and let me ride behind you, for I'm awful tired. Besides, it don't make a tinker's darn who I'm with, where I am, so's I have plenty to eat and skads of fun.

"Hexactly; but you don't look as though you'd been very well fed of late." "No, I havn't, for a lean, straight fact."

"What's your name, little Yankee; and where do you live?" demanded the officer, dropping his hand to the pommel of his saddle though keeping the pistol still turned upon the youth.

"I hain't got any name—never had—no home either. I'm one of the babes of the woods; are for a fact."

"You hare a young Yankee Doodle, and I'll call you such," replied the insolent Englishman. "My desire now is, sir, that you and me that rifle of yours."
"All munificent, major," and Harry handed

him his rifle. "Hi! how do you know I'm a major?"

"You look so dogged much like ole Deaco Hobb's big bulldog what they called Major." "Hi'll teach you manners, you hinsolent brat hof a Yankee!" and the officer released his foot from the stirrup and kicked at the youth, but failed in reaching him. "What is your lordship's further pleasure?

asked Harry, with mock politeness.
"In the name of his Majesty, King or Hengland, I command you to march on before me as my prisoner. Hi believe you are a Yan-

kee spy."
"Whew!" whistled Happy Harry, in appa rent surprise, "arn't you goin' to let me ride?"
"No words, Yankee Doodle. I have no time to spare in dallying with you. Moreover, it is not for prisoners to make conditions. Right habout!—face!—march, I say."

Harry turned coolly upon his heel, and striking a military attitude and step, marched away before the officer, whistling Yankee Doodle in tones almost as shrill and musical as the fife

The Englishman rode close behind him with his pistol in his hand; and as fast as the youth could walk, they hurried on through the forest. Belshazzar followed at the horse's heels.

Meanwhile the young borderman's thoughts were busy. He knew his captor was what his uniform proclaimed him to be-an English officer; and there was no doubt in his mind but that the man was on his way to the cavern from which he had so recently escaped, and that he was the messenger expected there from the English province with orders that would set the band in motion. If so, this man's cap-ture would be of incalculable service to the Americans on the northern frontier. At least this was the conclusion Harry came to as he moved on, whistling merrily, to the eminent delight of his pompous captor.

At length their journeying brought them into a glade or opening in the woods across which their course ran, and when near the cen ter of this clearing, a voice in the woods to their right suddenly shouted: "Halt !"

Harry stop both acting involuntarily.

"Dismount there, Englisher!" shouted a voice in the timber before them. "Surrender!" demanded a voice behind

when the word was taken up and repeated at a dozen different points around the glade. "Dismount and surrender!" cried that same

creaky voice before them, "or, by heavens, we'll pepper you through and through! .Down I command, in the name of the American Re

The officer looked aghast. His face turned white and his hand trembled. He saw no one yet a dozen different, strange voices had de manded his surrender, and he felt positive that a dozen American rifles covered his breast. Former experience had taught British soldiers how Americans fought-that they made no unnecessary display and exposure of their Trained to Indian-fighting, the bor der militiamen and scouts fought from behind trees, rocks, and whatever else afforded a cover; and this Harry's captor knew, hence his speechless horror.

"Stranger," said Harry, turning to the officer, "you're in a slashed ugly pickle, you are, for a clear fact. You're surrounded by ole Wheezy Jack's band of border scouts! and now if you'd like to save your bacon from bein' peppered down with bullets, you'd better give up. I know who you are, and where you're goin'. I just come from thar—that's the cave where Captain Kirby Kale is concealed. You're the messenger they've been expectin' for two days, I know you are, major. They sent me out to watch for you and conduct you to the right place."

"Why didn't you say so before?" replied the major, "and I might have averted this

trap! "I thought it would be such a good joke on you, major. I'm fond of a joke, and then it'd 'a' tickled the boys to death to see you come marching a friend into camp a prisoner." "Do those scouts know you are their ene-

"Great bal'headed hornits! no; and I hope you won't let on. You havin' me a prisoner 'll keep suspicion down, don't you see, major?" "Look here, then," said the officer, dis-mounting and wrenching a large brass button from his cloak, and placing it in Harry's hand,

"if you escape, give that to Captain Kale. Tell him what befell me." "I'll do it, major, with the greatest haste." replied Harry, slipping the button into his

Then the officer gave up Harry's rifle. Harry turned aside to depart.

"Do you surrender?" demanded that squeaky voice in the bush, south of the glade. "I would not were I surrounded by men who were not afraid to come out and fight,'

replied the Englishman. Happy Harry, with a mischievous smile upon his face, walked rapidly across the opening and entered the great woods. Belshazzar

trudged along at his heels.

motion an excuse to fire upon him.

"Cowards! knaves! poltroons! why do you not show yourselves?" demanded the humiliated officer. "Do you want an excuse to assassinate a prisoner?"

Five minutes passed.

There was no response. Not a soul stirred from the woods. Birds twittered in the treetops, and a huge fox-squirrel perched upon a limb, chattered and barked as if in derision. Again the officer called to his enemies, but

there was still no response.
"I wonder if that boy has betrayed me?" he mused, "and is holding a council with those scouts?"

He waited half an hour-an hour, but with the same result. Nobody appeared to take charge of him. He was puzzled; he was dumbfounded. He stood there waiting like a fool, and at length he resolved to move across the glade, cost him what it might. He started off slowly, leading his horse. No one halt ed him—no one appeared to meet him on the margin of the woods—he could see nor hear no living soul near. He grew more courage ous; still he was in a quandary. If any one was watching him, he resolved to know it; so he raised his foot and placed it in the stirrup but no one bade him displace it. Then he threw himself into the saddle, and putting spurs, galloped away through the woods at a

wild, breakneck speed.
Still no voice halted him, for none was near Happy Harry was the only living soul within miles of them when these voices bade the offi-

cer surrender. They were Harry's voices!

Brave little Harry! he had outwitted the haughty English major, and accomplished his heart's desire. He had got the officer's secret message into his possession, and with it had good his escape.

And what historian has recorded this daring act of the noble boy? an act which ultimately led to the most decisive blow which England received in the memorable war of 1812, es pecially in the North-west.

CHAPTER XI. CAPTAIN RANKIN'S FATE.

WE will now go back in our narrative, and ook after Captain Robert Rankin, whom, as will doubtless be remembered, we left on the raft, engaged hand-to-hand with a savage. They were the only two combatants left, and were down, fighting as only desperate enemies fight, when Happy Harry saw them carried

In the commencement of the battle, Rankin had received a flesh wound on the arm, that bled profusely, and from loss of blood he gradually grew weaker. But he fought on; he grappled with his adversary and together they went down. Neither one could get at his weapon. Rankin had a knife, the savage of comahawk; both were in their girdles.

The young officer saw that he must soon end

the conflict, or the tide of victory would turn against him. His strength was fast falling, but by a mighty effort the captain succeeded in throwing his adversary partially loose from him. It liberated his right hand, and, quick as a flash, he drew his knife. But the change in their position gave the savage the same advantage, and he drew his tomahawk, and

The hand of the white man was the quicker, and he plunged his knife into the warrior's breast. It partially broke the force of the descending tomahawk, yet the weapon fell heavy enough to strike Rankin senseless upon the deck. The savage, at full length, back in his death throes; a few convulsive quivers, and the form became motionless.

The raft floated on. The moon came up and shone upon the two still bodies drifting further and further away into the great ex-Now and then a night-bird screamed along

the bosom of the deep and flapped his somber wings above the dead. All else was silent. The long hours of darkness wore away. The sun, rising, shot his quivering beams of light across St. Clair. They fell upon the aft with its white tent and ghostly faces still drifting on over the waves.

One face was lifeless, staring with stony eyes into the heavens. The other possessed a faint spark of life—Robert Rankin was not dead: but, all through the long night he had lain totally unconscious, and not until the bars of morning light had diffused some of their warmth into his body was he able to move. Little by little he gained strength until he was able to raise his head and glance around him. He saw the boundless sea beneath and the sky above-nothing more. Ay! he did see some thing else-the stark form of his late adversarv. and the white tent which he and Muckle wee had erected.

Gradually he collected his bewildered sen-One by one he recalled the events that had transpired up to the time he had fallen under the blow of the savage's tomahawk. But, where was his friend and guide, Bill Muckle wee? Where was the boy, Harry? What had been their fate?

The sun beating down upon his aching head increased his suffering. He attempted to rise, but sunk to the raft with sheer weakness. On his hands and knees he crawled into the tent out of the hot sun. Here he found everything exactly as they left it at the time Hap py Harry gave the alarm of danger. once took a flask of brandy from among his effects and swallowed some of the contents. It strengthened him-it renewed his spirits, But he was still unable to rise to his feet. He opened the box in which he had some cold provision, and taking a biscuit and some meat therefrom, ate heartily. This helped him also, and he rapidly grew stronger. There was a sun beat down upon the raft. light breeze blowing from the west, but it was hot and sultry as the breath of a storm.

Birds appeared afar off in the ethereal blue of heaven, tiny specks at first, but gradually growing larger and larger. They were ap-They were ap proaching—they were buzzards. took a position above the raft and rose and fel in the air in spiral circles—growing bolder and bolder each minute. They were after the dead—that savage corpse swelling in the hot sun; but Rankin was unable to remove it from their filthy beaks-unable to consign it to a watery grave.

Overcome by a sudden reaction, the young captain sunk down half fainting. He fell asleep, and for hours slept soundly. When he It was pourawoke the sun was in the zenith. ing down upon him with a fervid heat, ooked out of the tent and over the great expanse of water. Upon all sides green-clad is lands broke the monotony of the waves. The sight was so surprising that for a moment he believed it a delusion—a fantasy of a bewildered brain. He had drifted into the midst of a group of islands.

necks and flew rapidly away. The blackbirds one advanced, and he was afraid to move, for rose in the air and circled from sight. The fear the concealed foe would make the least liage and sylvan shade! and yet, how like perfumes of Araby or Ind. mockery, as, with his aching head, he re-clined upon the raft beneath the blazing sun, unable to turn the heavy craft aside.

He carefully scanned each island, but no sign of human life was visible upon any of them. There was other life, however, near him. Something black, with great spreading wings, and bright, diamond eyes crossed

his vision. It was a huge bird—a buzzard.

Mechanically the young man glanced at the corpse of the savage. He started at the revolting sight. The body swollen; the arms extended as if to clasp some one in their em-brace; the jaws distended, and the protruding eye-balls staring awfully into the heavens The young man shuddered with horror. buzzard descended and perched itself on the bloated form. The filthy bird flapped its somber wings, held them extended for a moment, glanced around him, and then peered down in o the stony face of the dead.

For a moment it regarded the ghastly object, then it uttered a cry of satisfaction—a cry that grated terribly upon the ears of

Another bird immediately descended from the clouds. Then another, and still another, until nearly a dozen of the foul scavengers of the air had assembled at the banquet. hesitated about beginning the feast. They chattered around the dead as if discussing some point of etiquette, or as if in doubt of

Suddenly their necks became outstretched. They uttered a shrill cry of alarm, then they spread their wings, beat the air, rose aloft, and circled swiftly away through the air. What had frightened them?

Rankin crawled to the door of the tent, and gazed out. To his surprise he found the raft oating in a narrow channel between two islands, both of which were covered with a ense growth of luxuriant foliage.

The raft drifted slowly down the channel keeping away from either island as if guided by the hand of an invisible Charon who was carrying the soul of the suffering man out into the illimitable sea beyond this life. Nearing the eastern extremity of the island the helpless man saw a human figure push out

from the shrubbery and pause upon the beach.

A white woman stood there before him! Scarcely had Rankin made this discovery ere a shadow crossed his path. Raising his eyes, they fell upon what appeared to be a

bright vision—the delusion of a pleasant It was the face and form of a young girl. She stood upon the raft before him.

CHAPTER XII. TEMPY, THE ISLAND ENCHANTRESS.

RANKIN'S mind was weak and confused with pain and mental torture. His brain ached and throbbed; his eyes were dimmed and blurred by constant watching and by the dazzling sun, and as he gazed upon the form and face of the young girl before him, he was not sure that she was a being of flesh. There was something so ethereal about the form, something so angelic about the face.

You are hurt-wounded, stranger," the apparition at length remarked, seeing he was peechless, that there was blood upon him, that his face was pale, and that his eyes were wild

and startling.

The sound of her voice broke the spell and drove all doubt and uncertainty from his

mind; the being before him was in the flesh, and his very soul cried out in gladness.
"Weak," he responded, in a broken, feverish tone. "I am dying by inches, fair maiden. Look around you, and perhaps you can imagine a tithe of what I have been suffering for what seems an age.

"I have already made myself fully acquainted with the distressed sight this raft presents," the fair girl replied; "but, sir, you are fast drifting out into the open lake, and if you would escape from this If you will accept of my assistance, I can help you to the island, where you will reeive kind attention."

"Then you live upon the island?" he asked. "The one to the left, as you float east," she

Rankin staggered to his feet. He could not refuse the proffered kindness of the beautiful irl, even had he known that she was hurryng him into unknown dangers. He had fought pravely against the enemy and the horrors that surrounded him; but, almost in the very hour of his triumph, he yielded to the will of a tender, feeble girl.

But this girl possessed charms of soul and body that true manhood could not resist. She was not over seventeen years of age; her form was a model of exquisite beauty, her face a type of rare loveliness, her eyes were of a soft rown, with the wild, timid expression of a fawn's: her hair was of the color of her eyes, and gathered back from her brow and confined in braids.

She wore the rather pretty, yet odd frock of an Indian princess; but, instead of Indian blood coursing her veins, it might have been that of a royal queen. Her face and hands were tanned by exposure to the summer sun and wind; but this exercise in the open air had been instrumental in imparting a health ful glow to her cheeks, a sparkle to her eyes, and strength and activity to her budding

She conducted Rankin to the rear of the raft, where a light canoe was fastened by its painter, and assisting him into it, she seated herself, took up the paddle, and turned toward the island. Plying the blade with remarkable skill, she sent the little craft flying through the waters, and in a very few minutes a land The hot ing was effected.

"Why, Tempy—sister!" a voice suddenly

exclaimed, as Rankin and his fair rescuen stepped ashore; "you were right after all."

The speaker was a woman—she whom the captain had first seen upon the island. She approached them, expressing both surprise and sympathy in the look she gave the man. She was perhaps ten years older than Tempy, a handsome woman, with threads of silver among her dark brown hair, a large, sad eye, and a face upon which was written the indelible hand of hidden sorrow.

"Yes, Margery," replied the maiden, "it was as I told you—a wounded man upon the raft, though he himself insists on it that he is "Far from it, I hope, stranger," said Mar-

gery. "Let us not tarry here," and turning, she led the way along a beaten path, beneath the cool shadows of the dense foliage. Rankin and Tempy followed, moving very slowly, for the captain was so weak he reeled

as he walked. Threading their way through the grove they finally debouched into an opening, in the center of which stood a log-cabin, half buried in an arbor of wild cucumbers and morning There was no reply to the Englishman's last
There was no reply to the Englishman's last
The young captain's heart now took courretort. He stood ready to surrender, but no

The stood ready to surrender, but no

The young captain's heart now took courglories. In the rear of the building was a
which was of the most vital importance, to large what s become of the chapthat's growed

Margery; while he felt it was a duty that he
into as purty a man as he war a boy. I must
owed his country to have his message delivered
see her, and I'll start at once."

Rankin was conducted into the cabin, which was furnished with neatness and plenty. Tempy gave him water in a stone basin with which to make an ablution, and after this needed operation had been performed, he was seated in an easy chair, when Margery, with womanly tenderness, dressed his wounds. Then she brought some brandy and water, and gave him as a stimulant, and in a few minutes Robert Rankin felt that he was himself again He conversed freely with his fair Samaritan friends, giving a full history of his late perilous adventure, which eventually led him guest to their cabin.

The females, however, evaded all questioning concerning their secluded home. Rankin did not come boldly out and ask what calling their male friends followed for a livelihood he approached them with all the caution of a general approaching an enemy; but they proved themselves the most disciplined skirmishers, and defeated him at every point. Of course, this led to the supposition that the life of the women and their friends was shrouded in some mystery, and so he asked no further questions

Finally the conversation turned to the pro bable war with England. I say probable, although the war was at that time fully inaugurated, and Rankin knew it, but he affected ignorance in order to test the knowledge and sympathy of his two female friends.

He soon found that they were ignorant of the threatened war, but as they expressed the strongest sympathy for the American cause he soon became more communicative.

"War," he said, "has been declared, and already the enemy is moving across the fron-tier. Mackinaw is beleagured, and in case it falls the straits will be open to the English fleet.

The women were greatly surprised by this startling information, and expressed fears for their own safety.

"The English in Canada have anticipated the war," continued Rankin, "and have already taken such steps as will result in a terrible blow to our country, unless we can manage to be prepared for them. There is a party of the enemy now in the territory, waiting only for orders from headquarters to strike the

"Where is that party of enemies now?"

asked Margery.
"I have been unable to find out; my im ression is, however, that they are concealed n squads along the western shores of St. Clair, n the heavy woods, or they may be guests of their red allies, the Indians. When were orders from the British com-

mander expected, do you know?" "During the week, "Then you are in the secrets of the British

"I am Robert Rankin, with the commission of captain of dragoons," replied Rankin, evasively, and with a smile.

"I see you are in uniform," continued Margery.
"I'd have fared better without it under the

"Indeed!" exclaimed the keen-witted Mar-

gery. "I comprehend the meaning of your evasions—you are a spy!" "The same as a dead one, though. I am wounded—unable to move, and will be so for ome days to come.

"Have you dispatches or word of importance to carry to any post or village?"

Rankin looked up and smiled, He made no

"I know," continued Margery, "that the question is a bold one in one sense of the word, and foolish in another; but, sir, you can trust Tempy and I. This I assure you on the honor of a woman.

"But a true spy intrusts his secrets to no one but he whose ears they are intended for," replied Rankin.

"I ask not for your secrets, Captain Ranwould take upon myself the responsibility of concluding your mission for you."
"You? a feeble woman!" exclaimed Ran-

kin; "why you are weary leagues from the military post at Laketown." "I care not for that," she replied, with a

firmness that denoted her courage and patriotism; "a woman can serve her country as well as a man. Tell me what I am to say and I will start!"

"I cannot, Margery," the young captain said, regretfully; "my manhood shrinks from sending a woman out alone on a wide, watery waste. Perhaps I will be able to strike out ooner than I expect." "I know these waters well-perhaps far

better than you, captain; besides, I am no novice in water-craft," Margery persisted. To refuse me the conclusion of your journey may bring disaster to our country and entail the loss of hundreds of innocent lives.'

"That's all true—very true, Margery; and if your ability is equal to your persistent desire to go to Laketown you can accomplish the

mission. But then-"I'm a woman!" interrupted Margery, with asperity in her tone. "I have nothing more to add, Margery

the young man said; and removing one of his boots he unscrewed the heel and took from the receptacle therein, a small leaden ball, which he handed to her, saying: "that contains the message I desire to be placed in the hands of none other than Colonel Miller, the commandant at Laketown. Had you not been a woman I would never have surrendered it otherwise than with my life."

"You have faith in woman's honesty, then, and so I shall endeavor to strengthen that faith," replied Margery, with the resolute determination of a brave and noble God willing, this message shall be delivered into the hands of Colonel Miller."

Rankin was now highly impressed with the character of this woman. He saw that she was more than an ordinary personage in intellect, and was fully aware of the re bilities and dangers she was assuming for the

sake of her country.

The two women left Rankin's presence and went into an adjoining room-Margery to prepare for her long, perilous journey

The young captain awaited their return im-The soft, brown eyes, the pretty face, the sweet voice and gentle kindness of Tempy had made an indelible impression upon his heart, and he could hardly help thanking the terrible fate that had thrown her in hi He had recovered so rapidly, or, at least, felt so much better, since his advent in the island-home that his wounds gave him no uneasiness whatever. His heart feasted upon the mysterious beauty of the angelic Tempy, and his body grew stronger.

At the same time there was a struggle going on within his breast. His spirit of manhood rebuked him for surrendering his message, which was of the most vital importance, to

Margery as a woman of more than ordinary ability, it was his manly courtesy that rebelled

ability, it was his manly courtesy that rebelled at the idea of placing such a herculean task upon the shoulders of a woman. While speculating over the situation, Tempy burst into the room like a sunbeam, her face

radiant with joy.

A little sailor hat, trimmed with blue, was upon her head. Gloves were upon her hands, and a light, purple scarf was around her

"I'm going," she said, with a look of delight, turning to Rankin.

"Where?" asked the latter. "To the post with the message. I prevailed on sister Margery to let me go, as her health is somewhat feeble. Besides, I think I know the lake better than she does.

"Tempy, you—" began Rankin, but he was interrupted by the maiden, who exclaimed: "I hope you will not object to my going, Mr. Rankin. I thought it my duty to take Margery's place, since she had so kindly volunteered to conclude your mission. So I wish you a happy sojourn here, Mr. Rankin, and a sneedy recovery." speedy recovery. Good-by, Margery!"
"Tempy!" cried Rankin, starting wildly up;

'stay! do not go!" But Tempy did not hear him; she was gone. He attempted to rise and follow her; but his limbs refused to support their weight and he sunk back, half unconscious, in his chair.
(To be continued—commenced in No. 301.)

THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE,

BY "ELLOTE."

Ah! half-decayed is that cabin old, And the lights in the window, long and low, Where the sun came through like a stream of gold, Were broken long ago.

And the chimney, built of sticks and clay, Leans, like an old man, faint and weak; Through cracks, where the mud has fallen away, The winter winds now shrick.

The trough that led the sparkling rill From the cool, upgushing, crystal spring. Is held in its place by the firm rocks still, A leaking, moss-grown thing.

How often there have I knelt to drink When tired and flushed with play at noon; And often I could not help but think That "books" had come too soon.

The rocky ledges, brown and bare, Where the puring streamlet ran between, With the hawthorn-bushes standing there, Was the dearest spot I ween.

How oft we gathered the blossoms red.
The coronal of the early spring;
Or sat beneath, on the mossy bed,
To hear the wild birds sing. Ah! many a day, in that olden time, We rambled along by the pebbly stream. When memory echoed no funeral chimes, Nor held a broken dream.

The grassy slope and the leafy dell,
Where we gayly played at hide and seek,
What a joyous tale would the old haunts tell
If they could only speak!

But my eyes grow dim with rising tears
When I think of that buoyant, happy band,
And memory and grief, through long past years,
Go silent, hand in hand.

Ah! I love it yet, that schoolhouse old. That tottering stands on the rocky hight; And its memories come, like a stream of gold, Across my path to-night.

Nick Whiffles' Pet:

NED HAZEL, THE BOY TRAPPER.

BY CAPT. J. F. C. ADAMS. CHAPTER III.

THE "CONDEMNEDEST DIFFIKILTY" OF ALL, "OF all the condemned diffikilties that I've ever been in, this yer's the worst," muttered Nick Whiffles. "I thought it was purty bad when me and Calamity got separated that night in the storm, when my canoe upset, and Calamity landed in the wrong place, and my sunk to the bottom, and the snow was falling so fast that I couldn't see the length of my nose ahead of me; wal, thar war a kilty, and no mistake; but this yer's wust nor

He heaved a great sigh, that showed how deep his feelings were, and looked plaintively out on the river flowing by. He was quite a distance from home, and was standing on the bank of the stream, upon which he had hunted and trapped so often.

He had now spent the greater part of a week in hunting for his young friend Ned, who had so strangely disappeared while searching for Miona, and yet had discovered no clue at all. He had visited the Blackfoot village, and with a daring that attested his affection, as well as his bravery, had actually put some searching questions to Red Bear.

"And he answered them as innercent as a lamb, too," muttered the trapper, "but, for all that, I know that the old copper-skin could tell me all about him, ef he war a mind to open them lips of his. I don't know whether Ned has gone under, or whether he still floats his sticks, but somehow or other I think he's walkin' the airth, and I think I shall soon see him ag'in, though it ain't sartin." he added. as if to reprove himself for this sudden spasm of hope.

"It's put me and you to our stumps, Calamity," he added, looking down with his old quizzical smile, at his dog sitting at his feet. We've tramped the woods night and day, but it didn't do no good. Ned left in a canoe, and me and you, pup, hain't l'arned to track a man over the water yet, though we've tried it often 'nough. He stood a few minutes longer, looking out on the surface of the river, with that absent,

meditative manner, which showed how much his heart was enlisted in the work he had undertaken. Then, with another great sigh, he continued: "Poor Ned! I wonder if he knows how much old Nick Whiffles loves him! and then to think that he come all the way across the great ocean, a year ahead of his time, to see the

little gal, that I s'pose he's dreamed about night and day ever since, and now who kin tell where the feller is-' The old trapper suddenly recoiled a step, while his bronzed face flashed up as though some wonderful vision had passed before him. But it was only a thought that had come to him so suddenly, and that had so aroused him

from his mournful reverie.
"Why didn't I think of it before? That's what I orter done in the fust place. I must see Miona myself, and tell her every thing that's happened; she knows more about the ways of Red Bear and the Injins round her

than I do. "I'll set her to work; I've see'd that gal often 'nough to l'arn that thar's something in ner more than common women. Then she loves that young Ned, just as much as he loves her, and she'll move heaven and yarth till she l'arns what's become of the chap that's growed

MATURION TOURNAUGO -E-- 34-

Throwing his rifle over his shoulder, he moved off at a rapid stride through the wood toward the point where he had left his canoe, but had taken scarcely a dozen steps when he abruptly paused.

What is it, pup? Something on the river, eh? Red or white-skin? Man or four-legged

Nick started again, for at that moment a canoe came in sight, scarcely a hundred feet distant, and seated in the center who should he see but the very person whom above all others (excepting one) he desired to meet.

ef thar war ever a special Providence, that isn't any thing else. I was just going down to the village after Miona, dying to see her, when here she comes.

The sharp-eyed girl was not likely to miss seeing so prominent an object as a man standing on the bank, and recognizing her old friend Nick Whiffles, she nodded pleasantly to him, and turned her canoe toward the land.

Leaping out as lightly as a fawn, she placed her little hand in his large, rough palm, and said she was always happy to see him.

"And it does an old chap like me a power-

ful heap of good to look on such a purty, sweet face as yourn. What ar' you thinkin' 'bout, Miona?

I was just thinking while paddling along in my canoe, that four years have passed since father, mother and Ned left me here. Only one year more and he is to come for me."

And the face of the girl glowed with her heartfelt happiness—happiness that was born of great, pure, eternal love for him who had won it when she was but a mere girl.

There was no doubt there-no fear that in the far-away scenes of his home, where he had been years growing and developing into a splendid young man, where he encountered "civilized" beauties every day—no thought that his right loyal heart would ever falter in its devotion to its first love. Miona was

happy.

"It is now summer," she continued, in the same glad voice; "soon will come the snow and ice, and we shall be locked up in our lodges, until the warm sun breaks up our rivers, drives away the snow, and the flowers come in the woods again—and then he is to come. Oh, Nick, can you wonder that I feel happy? But what is the matter, my dear friend? You look sad and troubled over something.

"So I am, so I am," he answered, with another sigh, as he drew the back of his hand

in a suspicious manner across his eyes.
"Is there anything I can do for you?" she asked, in a sympathetic voice, as she tenderly laid her hand on his arm.

"No, no; it's all 'bout you; it ain't me alone, but you, too, are in the condemnedest diffikilty of your life. What's the use? Mighty! I might as well make a calf of myself and out

And then, summoning all his self-command, the trapper told the whole story to the girl— how Ned Mackintosh, impelled by his devotion to her, had not been willing to wait until the expiration of the probationary five years, but was already in America, had come all the way from Fort Churchill, with a party of traders, and had visited the Blackfoot village, feeling that he must have one look at her, and then perhaps he could wait until the coming spring; how he had talked with Red Bear, face to face believing that the chief could not recognize him, since he had changed so much that Nick himself had no suspicion of his identity, when he presented himself before him; and then, determined that he would see his beloved, he had left the traders, and gone off-and since then nothing had been seen or heard of

"It's all my fault, too," he added, in a selfreproachful voice. "I had no business to let him go, but then I love him so much that I couldn't refuse him anything he axed."

For a few moments, the emotions of Miona were too painful to permit her to speak; after awhile she gained control of herself and said: "You are not to blame for anything that has happened; your services to all of us can than burden to them—insuring the capture Th. 25m.

First base by errers—Nassau, 4; Field Ten, 4. Umpire, Mr. Jones, of the Unknown Club. Time, 1h. 25m. when you were at the village a few days ago. and little did I dream that that young man was Ned."

You see'd us then ?" asked Nick, flashing up with a new interest. "I didn't know that."

"I saw you both; why didn't you ask for "Ask for you! That's about all that I did

do, and wasn't I told that you war so busy gittin' ready to be married to Red Bear that you hadn't time to see other folks ?" "Were you told that?" asked Miona, with a

pale, terrified look. Yas; and more too. They told me that you had agreed to marry Red Bear—though I knowed that war a lie-and they didn't intend to give you up, and that if anybody tried to take you, you would be put in the Death

Now, I understand it all," replied the girl, speaking as though some new light had just broken in upon her mind,

'Hain't that varmint bothered you any ?' "I could not help seeing, for a year past, that Red Bear was quite an admirer, but he has always shown me a certain deference, and has never pressed matters."

He ain't ready yet-when the time comes, he will do it fast enough. How is it you're 'lowed to run loose ?":

I have always consented to keep out of sight when we had visitors, and only when they supposed none were near have I been permitted to take my canoe, or hunt in the woods but I nearly always have a companion, and even now I expect soon to be joined by the sister of Red Bear, who is to meet me a little

way up the river.
"But, Nick," sald Miona, rousing herself with an Amazonian dignity, "we must find Ned if he is living !"

She pronounced the last clause in a tremulous voice, and looked appealingly to the trapper, who hastened to say: think he's above-ground-and now,

Miona, can you meet me here to-night t"
"I will, if you wish it." "Have you l'arned, or heerd nothin' that woke your 'spicions !"
"Not a syllable."

"Then go back to the village, and don't show you spect anything, but do all you kin to find out what has come of that Ned. You're smart, and I b'lieve you kin do it. Meet me here, jist as the moon is risin', and tell me

The girl promised that it should be done. At that moment she saw no way by which she could secure a half-hour's absence from the village, but she was resolved that it should

be done, come what might. The knowledge that she had gained of the posed treachery of Woo-wol-na and the Red Bear, showed her her danger, and the necessity of her doing her utmost to get out bled inter that night and come so near breakof their power, and the knowledge that, under in' my neck, and gettin' inter my last con-Providence, the fate of her lover depended demned diffikilty."

upon her skill and daring, made a veritable

Joan of Arc of her for a time.
So they separated, and the weary hours of the day were spent by Nick Whiffles in the hollow: same vain search that had lured him on for so long a time.

For several hours before the time he was waiting at the rendezvous, and just as the moon began shedding its pale light over wood and stream, he heard the dip of her paddle, and a moment after her stealthy footstep, as she came like a shadow to his side. "'Sh!" she whispered, "I have a companion

-Red Bear's sister." "Have you l'arned any thing ?" "Yes; I think I can tell you the fate of Edward?"

CHAPTER IV.

WHEN Miona announced to Nick Whiffles that she had learned the fate of Ned Mackin-tosh, the old trapper could scarcely repress his excitement.

THE TRAIL.

'Alive or dead?" he asked eagerly. "Alive," was the reply; "wait here a few minutes; I must get rid of her, and then I will

And she was gone as suddenly as she came. Nick heard the sound of her paddle as it grew fainter and fainter, until it died out in the distance, and then he sat down like one exhausted.

"That 'ere is a woman," said he, as some thing like his old spirits came back to him; "hain't she follered up that trail better nor an old hunter like me kin do it! Calamity, when that female gal comes back ag'in, I want you to take yer hat off and make your best bow to her."

And indulging in his quirps and quiddities with the sagacious canine, he whiled away the half-hour until Miona herself reappeared. "I can now spend several hours with you, without being missed," she hastened to say. "I

retired to my lodge, and have arranged my bed so as to make it appear that I am sleeping there. I don't think the deception will be discovered until the sister of Red Bear comes to retire with me, and that won't be for several hours, and there's to be a sort of feast to-night that will keep them awake until midnight, and from which I easily excused myself on the olea of indisposition. I am very anxious to get back in time to prevent any discovery of my absence, as it may embarrass our future

"But Ned-what about him?" was the im patient question of Nick.

"I did what you told me to do," she answered.
"The whole day has been devoted to trying to learn something about him. I have not asked a single question of any one, but have watched and listened. A couple of hours ago I saw and listened. A couple of hours ago I saw Weather on the occasion proving very favoraged to pass near enough to hear the old chief old players of the Nassau club of Brooklyn and utter three words; they were:

"'Grizzly Bear Cave?"
"And there I believe Edward has been placed, and left to die a death of starvation."
"You're right!" exclaimed Nick Whiffles,
enthusiastically. "I never thought of that. Thar's whar he is, and I'll start for him at

"Do you know where it is?" "About five miles down the river, close to the bank on the other side."

"That is the place; I did not suppose you knew where it was. I came with the intention of guiding you to it."

Then followed a long consultation. Miona was anxious to accompany the trapper, and assist in the rescue of her lover. Nay, she would not listen to his denial, until he succeeded in convincing her that it would most probably defeat her very object.

The long confinement of Ned Mackintosh in Grizzly Bear Cave, with no food, had pro-

bably reduced him to the weakness of a child, so that he would be unable to render the assistance that would be so much needed in their

'Ef he's thar, with the help of Heaven I'll git him out. I'll take him home and make a well man of him, and then, when everything's ready, we'll move ag'in, and I swow to gre ous, if we don't make the condemnedest diffikilty that Red Bear or Woo-wol-na ever heard tell on.

"You go back to your lodge, and don't let 'em see that you've l'arned anything, and be on the look-out for us in a week from

"I came with the intention of helping you save him," she said, in a mournful voice; hoped that when we got him out of the cave we would all leave this country at once, and end this torturing suspense; but it would be wicked in me to act contrary to your ad-I have brought some food with me; give this to him, and tell him how anxious I was to share his danger and his suffering. Poor Ned! what has he endured on my account!

And the girl sobbed like one whose heart was breaking. Nick waited until the tempest of her grief had passed, and then he urged her to return to the village, and to act as he had instructed her to do.

Reluctantly she took his hand again and bade him farewell—renewing her protestations of love to her own cherished one, and making Nick promise to come as soon as possible to

She had scarcely taken her departure when the trapper and his dog were in his canoe, paddling down stream toward Grizzly Bear Cave.

He was compelled in his course to pass directly by the village, but he hugged other shore close in doing so, and ran little if any risk.

In the current again, and he bent his iron limbs with such a will that the cance seemed fairly to fly over the water. "Grizzly Bear Cave!" he repeated: "don't

know where it is? Didn't I tumble into it ace, when I war a-huntin' with a trapper, and ef he hadn't cotched the limbs and saved nimself, wouldn't I have starved to death thar? It's a horrible place, and a man who gits in thar is purty sure to be in the last diffikilty of his life, ef he hain't got somebody to help him out. Poor Ned! I s'pose he's give up long ago, and made up his mind that Nick Whiffles is the biggest fool in the trappin' grounds, as he is, sure 'nough, not to 'spect his bein' than. Come, old canoe, you must travel faster than

Mile after mile was passed, and the night wat quite advanced when he ran the little boat ashore and he and Calamity stepped out.
"Yer it is," he muttered, as he made his

way up a jagged mass of rocks, his heart trembling with hope and fear." "I wonder ef he's down thar, and ef he is, whether he hain't gone under. Hello! here's the very hole I tumCreeping forward, he leaned over and looked down into the dark, silent chasm, and then he called in a voice that sounded strange and

"Hulloa, Ned!" He waited, but there was no response.

"Hulloa, Ned Hazel!"

Again he turned his ear and waited several ents, but no sound reached him except that faint, moaning silence, such as is heard when one listens to the sea-shell.

"Hulloa, Ned, are you hungry?" When five minutes more had passed, Nick Whiffles rose to his feet and muttered: "I'm afeard poor Ned has had his last diffikilty!

(To be continued-commenced in No. 295.)

HARRY GORDON.

BY FRANK DAVES.

He is a man who lives at home, And shrinks from combat with his neighbors; He does as well as they who roam, And lose their morals by their labors.

He makes a living, and some more To store away for winter weather; So he and wife—of Heaven sure— Drift on and on in peace together.

He scarcely ever has a fight; And has no use for those who brew them; To heathen poor he gives his mite, And twice as much—to send it to them.

He don't neglect the modern lamp, And hangs like fate to ancient tapers; He seldom has the gout or cramp; He's not in debt for county papers.

He's going down the hill of life; He says he feels that he's been stronger; But if he can retain his wife, He'd like to live a little longer.

Most venerated friend, adicu! You'll soon be traveling over Jordan; A headstone then will rise to view, With this inscription: "Harry Gordon."

Not tired of life, but only feeble,
Has died and gone to t'other shore.
His last words, in a sickly treble,
Were: "Good by, all," and nothing more!

Sports and Pastimes.

BY HENRY CHADWICK.

BASE-BALL. THE CLOSE OF THE AMATEUR SEASON OF 1875. On Thanksgiving Day, November 25th, the base-ball season of 1875 terminated. On the first of the same month the professional season ended, the amateurs keeping up the sport to the very last, as will be seen by the appended score of a well-played game which took place at Prospect Park, on Thanksgiving Day, the weather on the occasion proving very force. a field ten, including five of the Chelsea, and Burdock and Fleet of the Hartford and Atlantic professionals, and after an eight-innings contest the Nassau ten had to retire a defeated But for the erroneous decision of the umpire in the second inning the score would have been a tie, as he placed back to their bases base-runners who had run home on a ball thrown in wildly from left field and caught by West in his cap. In such cases players running bases are entitled to those they would

	have made, and no pa	yer can be put out.
l	NASSAU.	FIELD TEN.
i	B. 1B.PO.A.E	
Į	W. West, rf.0 0 0 0	West, r s1 0 2 0 1
1	Cassidy, p1 1 0 3	1 Clare, c 1 2 2 3 0
1	Redm'ne, 2b.1 0 2 1	0 Fleet, 3d b0 1 1 2 0
1	Bunce, 1 f 1 0 1 0	0 McCabe, ss0 0 0 3 2
ł	Barnie, c1 0 14 3	URule, p1 0 1 8 0
ı	Brown, 1st b.0 0 5 0	z Burdock, z D.1 0 4 2 0
ì		0 Cassidy, cf. 1 1 4 0 0
	Roberts, rs 0 0 0 1	0 Dunn, 1st b 0 0 10 1 0
١	Doecher, 3d b0 0 1 1	0 Richard'n, rf1 1 0 0 2
ı	Rogers, e f1 3 0 0	0 Daly, 1 f 1 1 0 0 1
ì	TOWNSON TO THE THE	
١	Totals5 4 24 9	4 Totals 7 6 24 14 6
	Nassau4 0	0 0 0 0 0 1-5
		0 0 0 0 1 2-7
	First base by errors-	-Nassau, 4; Field Ten, 4.
	TT. I BE Taylor Of A	L TT L CIT I PRINT

Nothing approaching the amateur displays in the field during 1875 have ever been seen at the hands of that class of the fraternity since the game was established; and never before did so many clubs enter the amateur arena. As hitherto the college clubs bore off the palm in fine play, the nine of old Yale again winning the honors of the college club championship; the greater facilities they have for practice, and the fact that they present more educated talent on the field, giving them an advantage over the regular amateur nines

of the country. If there is any one thing which the experince of each season's play more conspicuously proves than another, it is that brain power is one of the essential requisites in a successful base-ball team, whether amateur or profes-

sional. The amateur season of 1875 was marked by a number of so-called contests for the cham-pionship of the United States; but it is a wellknown fact that no such title does or can exist; the outlay of funds involved in the series of tours through the country in the effort to win such a title would necessitate placing it out of the power for any amateur organization to engage in such an undertaking. But there can readily be champions of counties, cities and towns, and in some cases of a State. For instance, the Resolutes, of Portland, are the champions of Maine; the Lowells, of Massahusetts; the T. B.'s of Bridgeport, of Connecticut; the Olympics, of Paterson, of New Jersey; the Peabodys, of Baltimore, of Marvland; the Eurekas, of San Francisco, of California; and so on. Then, too, cities can readily have their champions, as the Flyaways, of New York; the Chelseas, of Brooklyn; the Stars, of Newark. There are also district or section al champions, such as the Nationals, of Washington; the Stars, of Syracuse—the latter be ing champions of western New York. But here never can be any United States champions of the amateur arena, unless some unusually wealthy party of amateurs who neither receive pay in any way or share in gate-money, should undertake the task.

The great abuse of the season in amateur circles has been the "revolving" indulged in. But the subject is one of such importance that we propose devoting a special article to the subject in the next monthly base ball article The season's play has seen some of the closest of contests between amateur nines, and such professional clubs as the Athletic, Philadelphia, Hartford, Atlantic and New Haven clubs have on occasions been obliged to suc cumb to amateur opponents. The record of the model games of the amateur arena for 1876 will be found below, the limit being five runs for the winning nines:

Oct. 18, Lowell vs. Live Oak, at Lowell, Mass. 1
Oct. 25, Live Oak vs. King Philip, at Lynn. 1
June 17, Atlantic vs. Olympic, at Paterson. 1
BY TWO RUNS.
April 27, Archer vs. Wood, at Philadelphia. 2
May 26, Chelsea vs. Tuttle & Bailey, at B'klyn. 2
July 10, Star vs. Ludlow, at Cincinnati. 2

5. Milford vs. Cincinnati, at Milford

18. Active vs. Doerr, at Reading

19. Philadelphia vs. Empire, at St. Louis

29. Philadelphia vs. Star, at Covington

10. Enterprise vs. Suffolk at Huntington

10. Hartford vs. T. B., at Bridgeport

12. Chicago vs. Live Oak, at Lynn

18. Peabody vs. Creger, at Gloucester

17. Olympic vs. Chelsea, at Paterson

30. Flyaway vs. Olympic, at Brooklyn

11. Taunton vs. Troy, at Fall River

28. Ardington vs. Star, at New Haven

28. Arlington vs. Star, at Syracuse

4. Corr vs. Hughes, at Brooklyn

7. Star vs. Trenton, at Irvington Sept. 29. Resolute vs. T. B., at Bridgeport. 6.2
Sept. 25. Lowell vs. Rollstone, at Lowell. 6.2
Sept. 25. Lowell vs. Rollstone, at Lowell. 6.2
Sept. 25. Live Oak vs. Lowell, at Lowell. 6.2
May 22. Mystic vs. Winona, at Brooklyn 6.3
June 5. Harvard vs. Yale (fresh n), at Seabnidge 6.3
June 12. Troy vs. Eggleston, at Fall River 6.3
Aug. 13. Reliance vs. Confidence, at N. Rochelle 6.3
Aug. 14. Fall River vs. R. Island, at Providence 6.3
Aug. 15. Grafton vs. Live Oak, at Lynn. 6.3
Sept. 2. Mutual vs. Resolute, at Brooklyn. 6.3
Sept. 3. Mutual vs. Resolute, at Brooklyn. 6.3
Sept. 1. Live Oak vs. Resolute, at Brooklyn. 6.3
Sept. 1. Live Oak vs. Resolute, at Brooklyn. 6.3
Sept. 1. Live Oak vs. Resolute, at Portland. 6.3
Oct. 29. Archer vs. Thebe, at Philadelphia. 6.3
May 13. Dauntless vs. Seneca, at Brooklyn. 6.4
June 21. Yale vs. New Haven, at New Haven. 6.4
July 6. Union vs. T. B., at Newark. 6.4
Aug. 13. Athletic vs. Noshannock, at Mansfield. 6.4
Aug. 13. Athletic vs. Noshannock, at Mansfield. 6.4
Aug. 14. Nameless-vs. Greenport, at Greenport. 6.4
Aug. 24. Y'g America vs. High Bay, at Harlsbyg 6.4
Aug. 30. Peabody vs. Swan, at Baltimore. 6.4
Sept. 3. Ludlow vs. Hartford, at Cincinnati. 6.4
Sept. 4. Active vs. Beacon, at Boston. 6.4
Sept. 4. Retive vs. Beacon, at Boston. 6.4
Sept. 18. Boston Junior vs. Ed Yan, at Canton. 6.4
Sept. 18. Boston Junior vs. Ed Yan, at Canton. 6.4
Sept. 18. Boston Junior vs. Ed Yan, at Canton. 6.4
Sept. 18. Boston Junior vs. Ed Yan, at Canton. 6.4
Sept. 18. Boston Junior vs. Ed Yan, at Canton. 6.4
Sept. 18. Boston Junior vs. Ed Yan, at Canton. 6.4
Sept. 18. Boston Junior vs. Ed Yan, at Canton. 6.4
Sept. 18. Chaham vs. Keystone, at Brooklyn. 6.5
June 22. Chaham vs. Keystone, at Brooklyn. 6.5
May 28. Frontier vs. Mystic, at Brooklyn. 6.5
June 29. Chaham vs. Keystone, at Brooklyn. 6.5
June 29. Chaham vs. Keystone, at Brooklyn. 7.
July 14. Resolute vs. Phoenix, at Portsown. 6.5
Oct. 20. Andersocgini vs. Bates Col., at Hewish 6.5
Sept. 29. Cricket vs. Star, at Binghamton (101). 6.5
Sept. 29. C

Aig. 11. Freentiev vol. Star, as Pr. Hemilton (11) 2 of the control of the contro May 15, Harvard vs. Princeton, at Princeton
June 16, Osceola vs. W. Stratford, at Stratford
June 24, Atlantic vs. Live Oak, at Lynn
July 1, Flyaway vs. Reliance, at Brooklyn
July 28, Olympic vs. T. B., at Paterson
Aug. 13, Boston vs. Ludlow, at Cincinnati
Aug. 11, Norfolk vs. Eckford, at Easton, Mass.
Aug. 3, Payania vs. Hoboton at Lection Aug. 11, Norfolk vs. Eckford, at Esston, Mass. 9 7
Aug. 3, Pavonia vs. Hoboken, at Hoboken. 9 7
Aug. 30, Taunton vs. Fall River, at F. R. (101). 9 7
Aug. 31, Capital vs. Louisville, at Frankford. 9 7
Sept. 13, Live Oak vs. Rochester, at Rochester. 9 7
Sept. 8, Comet vs. Ouleouts, at Unadilla. 9 7
Oet. 12, Eagle vs. Olympic, at Louisville. 9 7
May 24, St. Lawrence vs. Ottawa, at Ottawa. 9 8
July 6, Tecumseh vs. Mutual, at Jackson. 9 8
July 9, T. B. vs. Bridgeport, at Bridgeport. 9 8
July 9, T. B. vs. Bridgeport, at Bridgeport. 9 8
Aug. 5, Ionian vs. Western Rock, at Oberlin. 9 8
Aug. 7, Rose Hill vs. Olympic, at Waterbury. 9 8
Sept. 1, National vs. Creighton, at Washi'g'n. 9 8
Sept. 1, National vs. Creighton, at Washi'g'n. 9 8
Sept. 14, Quickstep vs. Excelsior, at Wilmington 9 8
Sept. 18, Eggleston vs. Mutual, at Melrose, Mass. 9 8
Sept. 25, Lightfoot vs. Kirtland, at Salem. 9 8
Oet. 9, Equitable vs. Winona, at Brooklyn. 9 8

A FAMOUS MEDICAL INSTITUTION.

A FAMOUS MEDICAL INSTITUTION.

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Sunshine Papers.

Wanted-A Name.

Not for myself! Oh, no! Pray do not imagine that I am sighing "for a terrible man with a terrible name," to kneel at my feet, imploring of me the acceptance of that possession! Not a bit of it! "The magic of a name" is quite unknown to me, nor am I seeking its influence for any of my fair friends On the contrary, it is for a certain class of the opposite sex that I'm diligently seeking a pseudonym, and thus publicly advertising my search in the hope that its present fruitlessness will be rewarded in the future by the suggestion of some kind friend.

Juliet, that love-lorn maiden, contemptuously asked, "What's in a name?" Judging from the haste she was in to change hers, such assumption of 'indifference toward nomenclature was rather amusing. And, the daughter of the house of Capulet notwithstanding, there is, to such minds as are not concentrated on a Romeo, very considerable in a name. For instance, when one speaks of a gentleman, the title is understood to have a particular signification. Tennyson truly says, "It is a name defamed by every charlatan, and soiled with all ignoble use;" yet the usages of the English language give it a certain definition from which we are loth to disconnect it, so long as there lives one who can "bear without abuse the grand old name of gentleman." Since man and woman are the names given by God himself to His highest creations, we can never hold those titles quite indifferent and meaningless. There is glory in the names; there is glory in bearing them. Then is it not a degradation of these names to bestow them on creatures who, by the bearing of them, would lower the title as it applies to a race?

If a being is of the masculine gender; has attained those years supposed to be compatible with discretion and maturity; looks, acts, dresses and lives in a style similar to those among whom he moves, and yet would inspire us with infinite disgust for mankind, were we forced to call him a man, pray what name shall we give him?

Perhaps Darwin would call him a monkey. But, suppose you have taken sides against Darwin's theories, it would never do to throw the case so ignominiously away as to be overcome by the temptation one feels to bestow that title upon this class of animals. And however much, contemplating him, you may revelt against the idea of universal brotherhood, your conscience will remind you of that biblical command relating to the calling of

Puppy " suggests itself, possibly, to your mind, as a happy thought. But—unhappy thought—the term would sound inelegant, and might be considered, by the advocates of the scientist just mentioned, a begging of the after. then, for a name

They come on the ferryboats or cars, these creatures whom we must decline to consider men, and select a seat or standing-place opposite some fair representative of the gentler sex. They twirl their cane; they smooth out an imaginary wrinkle in their immaculate gloves; they stroke their pet whiskers; they caress their adored mustache; they flutter gracefully their daintily perfumed handkerchief; they adjust the muscles of their mouth to that certain angle which shall disclose a suspicion of faultless teeth, and betray the shadow of a smirk; they lower their eyes to a sidelong, intent and ardent gaze. And then do they not imagine they are perfectly irresistible? Do they not fancy themselves the admired of an admiring throng? Do they not fondly flatter themselves that they are causing to flutter with pleasure the susceptible heart of whatever gentle being they are deigning to notice? Perhaps not!

They are on the cars, these creatures for whom a name is wanted, the stages, the steamers, the streets, the promenade, in all public gatherings; probably in accordance with that not unfamiliar saying of certain faces often seen in public places.

For personal illustrations concerning these bipeds, ask any woman. There cannot be found a lady who has not, at some time within her experience, had a chance to note their inimitable vanity, their absurd coxcombry, their insufferable impudence. And when one hears a most insignificant representative of their species asserting, pompously, for the benefit of the individual damsel his latest attempts are to annoy, "'Pon my soul, it's worth a man's while to deprive himself of an hour of sleep for the sake of being a few moments in a charming presence!" one cannot help becoming impressed with the conviction that soul and manhood are both foreign elements to this creature's nature. For the sake of those who are men, and to dispose of a troublesome mental question, let us have, for this anomalous class of individuals, a distinctive name, ere we are forced to accept the theory that monkeys they were and to monkeys they shall re-A PARSON'S DAUGHTER.

"BE NOT WEARY IN WELL-DO-

WE should not grow weary in well-doing, although, at times, when we see how much ingratitude our deeds of kindness meet with, it almost enough to discourage any one from endeavoring to be sociable and neighborly. How many of us act from the very best of motives and do everything in our power to aid a friend or raise one up who has fallen by the wayside? To feel a deep pleasure in being of service, to know that we are instrumental in being able to make life smoother traveling, even though it be to but one or two of our fellow-creatures, and who, for the time, seem grateful for what we have done, is a blessed

By-and-by, from various causes unknown

we have helped, to turn the "cold shoulder" on us and even say hateful things of us behind our backs, which some good-natured friend (? will be sure to repeat to our face. Then i the time we begin to be weary in well-doing a time when we feel quite discouraged. But we must not be discouraged or weary; we must shake off that feeling. Where one is ungrateful we shall find ten who are not. Your good deeds planted will bring forth abundant fruit one of these days. No one need ever repent of saying a kind word or doing a generous deed, for these things are a great satis faction and serve to brighten the lives of many who otherwise would have few things to look back to with unselfish pleasure.

There was once a woman united to one who proved himself a most brutal husband. Her life was one continued round of trouble and care. Her husband scarcely ever uttered one kind word to her, and, in his mad fits, when in life. his drunken sprees, beat her. She bore all this with patience and resignation, but she set herself to work to reform him. She knew she had no light task before her and that it would be a work of time. Every morning sh uttered the words, "Be not weary in well-do-ing," and acted on that principle. For fifteen years she worked for that man's reformation through trials, hardships, discouragements and cruelty, but she gained the victory at last, and she had the satisfaction of seeing him respected whom people had despised.

Had she grown weary at the end of one, two, or even five years, as you and I might have done, could we have blamed her? then the result would have been sadly different. To have given up then would have been to have wasted all her previous endeavors.

The fault with a great many of us lies in this, that we too soon get tired of what we un dertake and then complain because our results have not been all we anticipated. We haven't enough perseverance, and when one difficulty comes we haven't the patience to do away with it but lie down and go to sleep. When all is smooth sailing it is all very well, but when the weather grows squally we grow frightened and make no effort.

You think that such a one has no heart because all you do for him is met with so much coldness and seeming ingratitude. But you'll find he has a heart if you keep continually plucking away the briers and thorns that surround it. You mustn't mind if you de prick your fingers, you can't get through the world without some pains, and the pleasure you will experience in finding a warm heart where you only looked for a stone will compensate you for your time and labor spent.

Inventions are not brought to perfection at nce; years of labor are required to make them perfect; there are alterations and improvements-care, toil, and wasted effort; but t is out of these discouragements and drawbacks that victory finally comes.

Books are not written in a day, but word by word, line by line, and page by page, until the volume is completed. To read a work we think how easy it must have been to write it; but we cannot see into the author's study, nor imagine how much he has had to contend with, how many fears and misgivings have beset him lest his book should prove a It was these very doubts that impelled him to his best efforts, and by not growing weary in well-doing, he has the proud sat-isfaction of knowing he has not labored in

As the season is at hand when "Be not weary in well-doing" is a principle of Christian practice peculiarly desirable, think of the sad faces that will brighten at our approachof the heavy hearts that will lighten at our coming—of the anxiety that will be banished at our cheery call. Think of it. Ye who are blessed bountifully with God's good gifts, and do ye unto others in this blessed Christmas season, as God has done unto you—give of your abundance freely, be not weary of welldoing, for sweet will be reward here and here-

THE QUEEN'S CARDEN PARTIES.

How simple, plain and perfectly English and womanly are the habits and tastes of the Queen! The Prince of Wales, socially, is othing more than a rich, sporting, pleasureoving English squire. The style of entertainment at the palace, for example, is quite like that you would receive at the house of the Duke of Sutherland, or the Duke of Westminster. Nay, I have even heard the com plaint hinted that when the Queen entertains officials at dinner, the viands are not as various or as well served as at any ordinary aristocratic gentleman's house. The Queen certainly sets an example of economy to her up-per-class subjects. When she comes to London for the early parliamentary season, her fayorite method of dispensing hospitality is to give garden parties and "breakfasts" in Buckingham Palace gardens, or in the private garden of Windsor Castle. Invitations to these are, of course, much sought for, because they are the most select; there you come directly in contact with royalty, and see it more nearly and familiarly than if you dined with the Queen in the castle. When you are conducted to the garden by one of the scarlet flunkies of majesty, said flunky is about the only visible hint there is of its being a royal party. You see pretty tents and canvas pavilons disposed here and there under the oaks. on the velvety lawn, or by the side of the pretty miniature lake. If this is in the Buckingham Palace garden, which is in the very center of fashionable West End London, the moment you have passed beyond the high wall which shuts it out from St. James' Park on one side and Grosvenor Place on the other, you would never guess that you were in the midst of the city. The surroundings are ex-quisitely and most illusorily rural. You see a number of gentlemen and ladies, elegantly dressed, standing about in groups, or partaking of the by no means sumptuous fare which is being served without ceremony in the tents.
The scene is cheerful, elegant, bon-ton, easy and unrestrained. You catch a glimpse of the Queen, dressed in black, with here and there a relief in rich white lace; but with no suspi cion of tinsel er gaudiness about her; a plain lady, of substantial proportions, in the prime of life, the center of a respectful, but by no means awed or abashed circle; receiving those whom she recognizes with a slight smile and a pleasant word, and the presentations of those whom she does not know with a slight bow There are faces here who are familiar to you in the windows of the print-shops-noblemen, statesmen, ministers, ambassadors, leaders of society and court fashion; but there is little or no pretension of manner or carriage. You are surprised above all at the simplicity, the elegant commonplace of the whole thing. You may jostle Wales, or the Russian ambassador, or lord chief-justice, without being in the least aware of the fact. The gentleman who, seeing you are a stranger, asks you if you will not have a sandwich and cup of By-and-by, from various causes unknown to ourselves, we find these very ones, whom coffee, may be a fashionable artist or a provin- "The Hights," where a young man with a downy could be anything but contemptible.

cial mayor, and may be the Duke of Teck. If, perchance, you have been at a fete champetre at some great country-house—say at Chatsworth or Belvoir-you say to yourself that this differs in no striking respect from it, unless indeed it differs by its lesser brilliancy and its more suggestive simplicity. And this is the striking characteristic of modern English roy-There is a great change even from Gentleman George's time. That padded and painted old dandy never appeared as a host without being bedizened with stars and laces. To be sure, there are nowadays grand occasions, like drawing-rooms, levees, openings of parliament, thanksgiving pageants in St Paul's, and so on, when majesty assumes all the trappings and insignia of its rank. But these are the rare exceptions—rarer to royal-ty than our own birthday and patriotic anniersaries-to the ordinary routine of royal

Foolscap Papers.

Councilman.

GREAT greatness, isn't it a great thing to be great! Some men are born to greatness, and some

go along through life, and greatness sticks to their clothes like burrs in a cornfield. I am troubled with a great deal of it, and the longer I live the worse it gets. I find it very inconvenient, and sometimes I almost wish that I was nothing more than some humble and obscure bank president living in mod-

est retirement out of the great world, as it I can't go along the street, but everybody stops to look at me and say "that's him. Even the humble policemen keep their eyes

When I register at a hotel, the landlord ooks at the name and orders another pig killed for dinner

I have had my hand shaken so much that my right arm is some inches longer than my left, and the crowd has been so great at times that I have been forced to employ another man to shake hands for me; sometimes a couple of them.

This morning I went into the house with a hop, skip and a jump, and a hooray, and my wife dropped the plate of mush on the floor as she reached for the broom and asked me if

I was crazy.

"No," said I, "but there has been more greatness thrust upon me. I have just been elected councilman by an overwhelming manufacture was an ority of one and a half; the half vote was an

This news put her in better humor than she has been in since our last fuss, and she said:
"I could wring your blessed old neck for
you, I am so glad. Is it really so?"
"Yes, indeedy; it's just as so as anything in

the world that isn't any soer. I am determined that this glorious country shall not go to

ed that this glorious country shan not go to ruin and be numbered among the nations that war so long as I can help it."
"Well," said she, "I hope, Washington, that you will now do nothing to precipitate a war with Spain."

Never, my good wife. I shall advocate the policy of peace abroad as I have always endeavored to do at home."

"Of course we will have to go and live in Washington city now, won't we!" No; not now at least," I said.

"Well, there is one thing now we have got to do, and that is to get into a finer house than this one, and we want a carriage, and, Washington, don't you think I had better go right down town and order a few fine dresses correspond with our new position?"

"Don't be in a hurry; all these things will come by-and-by, after I am inaugurated into office. It will be a grand affair, I tell you; and right afterward I shall begin a general reformation all over this country. make hard money easier in the East. Oh, there's no telling what I won't do; besides buy-Oh, ng a new pair of boots, with accompanying ocks; and if it will be any better for the liberty of our country you can hire the washing done out of the house."

"Is the councilmanship the highest office in the gift of the people?' she inquired, as she turned a buckwheat cake, and splattered the hot batter on my hand.

"The highest in the gift of some people. s. You see there's nothing to prevent a uncilman from feeling far above the President of the United States; and I intend to exalt my office. I'll bet my head that even G. Washington himself was never a member of the council; and there are many others I could mention, who were great in various other ways who never attained to that distinguished honor. Yet I'm not stuck up over it, and don't intend to be, much; although I fully appreciate the dignity to which I am so unani-mously thrusted."

"But how," says my wife, "about snubbing the Smithses and Joneses?"
"All right," says I; "and every one of your

She said she didn't know about that, and reached out for an unoccupied skillet; when I said, as far as her relations were concerned. that would be all right, however wrong it might be to a man up a stump; and that there always was a great deal in life to look over, if a man can stand high enough on tip-toe to

I said: "I don't know how I shall go down street after this, since even the little children have been in the habit of following me and pinning little souvenirs of their respect on my oat-tails; and how will it be now? It will be far worse

A But I am a councilman, With councilmen to stand."

She threw her arms around my neck and said: "Dear, all good things happen at once; just think, I got a letter to-day that mother is I went down town!!!

WASHINGTON WHITEHORN.

Topics of the Time. —A British Baronet recently failed, and his assets are thus enumerated by the trustees: "A railway rug much worn, a set of onyx studs, a pencil-case, an opera-glass out of order and use-cess, a pair of gaiters worn out, a gun-cleaner and cartridge-extractor, a fishing-rod, a silver watch, three pairs of worsted stockings and a lenter of the pairs of worsted stockings. three pairs of worsted stockings, and a lantern; altogether worth about \$20." Now, let this Baronet come to America and take his pick from an army of American women crazy to marry a title. We can name a score of really elegant and wealthy girls who would be "only too proud" to become a baronet's wife, if he wasn't too much of a beast for any woman's association. A title, in this democratic country, covers a multitude of shortcomings. shortcomings.

-We are told that there was a "party," a few

mustache, and hair parted in the middle, sung a sentimental song, the closing line being rendered: "My mother died when I was very y.o.u.n.g." Between the "y" and the "g" a disgusted auditor started for the door, muttering "Sensible woman that mother of yours." Anditor had no lasts. Vol. 860. taste, you see.

-Ida Lewis, the marine heroine, is poor, and —Ida Lewis, the marine heroine, is poor, and plays every Monday morning on a seven and a half octave washboard. With her bare elbows even with the key-board and a red flannel Beethoven before her, she renders that famous music with delicate expression and woolen poetry. Yet people send her poems, silk hosicry, three-button gloves, and fine jewelry.

-It appears that advertising is a very ancient institution. Turn back to the fourth chapter of Ruth in your family Bible, and you will find recorded there a real estate transaction which took place in Bethlehem, thousands of years ago, the reference to which runneth as follows: "And he said unto the kinsman, Naomi, that is come again out of the country of Moab, selleth a parcel of land which was our brother Elimelech's, and I thought to advertise thee, saying, buy it before the inhabitants and before the inhabitants and before the the inhabitants and before the elders of my

-The Centennial Exposition is likely to bring out a great number of things of local interest One of the announced contributions of Ohio to the exhibition is the old "Coon Skin Library," the exhibition is the old "Coon Skin Library," which is the peculiar possession of the town of Ames ville, in Athens county. This library was started by the first settlers of the place, who, after the Indian wars were over and territorial government firmly established, began to feel the need of books, and raised a subscription among themselves to found a library. Coon skins being at this time the principal circulating medium of the settlement, the bulk of their contributions were paid in that money, and so, when the first purchase of books was brought across the Alleglanies in the saddle-bags of a fellow townsman, nothing was more natural than for the Amesglanies in the saddle-bags of a fellow townsman, nothing was more natural than for the Amesville folks to call it the Coon Skin Library. General Ewing says he recalls Rollin's Ancient History and Hillworth's Speller and Reader as two of its first books. This was the origin of the first public library established in the territory North west of the Obje River. itory North-west of the Ohio River.

-A lesson for the strong-minded females is conveyed in a recent election in Hardin county, Iowa. There were six candidates for a petty of fice—five men and one woman. Sixty women voted, and not one cast a ballot for the "lone woman," but turning up their noses at her claims for consideration, they elected a man.

—Did anybody ever think that "we Americans" all wrote precisely alike? It never occurred to us that there was uniformity in our chirography, nor would we have believed that the contrary was true of the English, namely: that contrary was true of the English, namely: that their chirography bore special indications of personality and character. But, live and learn. The "smart" English weekly, the Saturday Review, speaks of our stereotyped forms of letters as something conceded and unquestioned—hence it must be true, no matter if this great pile of MSS. before us proves quite the contrary. It is a consolation, however, to know that the Review actually prefers our style. Hear it: "American hands all seem to have been turned out of one mold, and that the commercial. They would be irreproachable hands for a clerk wishing to conduct the correspondence of a respectable firm; but Englishmen are generally inclined to think that they are rather wanting in delicacy and personal character. We must admit, however, that the nalicharacter. We must admit, however, that the sonalcharacter. We must admit, however, that the Americans have the best of the argument. The first and most essential quality of good handwriting is that it should be legible, as the first quality of style is that it should be lucid. In that respect there can be no doubt that the Americans have the advantage of us, whether their excellence be owing to their system of education or to some more impalpable correlation between the national character and the organization of their fingers."

Oriental Company.

—Sir John Bennett, the Alderman and well-known watchmaker in the city of London, delivered a lecture the other day, during which he used the following metaphor: "You can stop a clock at any moment," he said, "but you cannot stop a watch. So it is with the talk of men and of women. Man is a great, ugly, coarse machine, but you can silence him. Woman is a beautiful, fragile, jeweled thing—but she will run on till she stops herself." Let Sir John come here and some of these beautiful, fragile, jeweled things ome of these beautlful, fragile, jeweled things will punch his head for him.

will punch his head for him.

—Don't be a grumbler. Some people contrive to get hold of the prickly side of everything, to run against all the sharp corners, and find out all the disagreeable things. Half the strength spent in growling would often set things right. You may as well make up your mind, to begin with, that no one ever found the world quite as he would like it; but you are to take your share of the trouble and bear it bravely. You will be very sure to have burdens laid upon you that belong to other people, unless you are a shirk yourself; but don't gramble. If the work needs doing, and you can do it, never mind about the yourself; but don't gramble. If the work needs doing, and you can do it, never mind about the other boy who ought to have done it and didn't. Those workers who fill up the gaps, and smooth away the rough spots, and finish up the job that others left undone—they are the true peacemakers, and are worth a whole regiment of growless.

—Oregon promises to be a great wheat producing State. A vast district of its rich soil has not yet been placed under cultivation. The total for all products, including that now under cultivation, and such as is suitable for tillage, is placed at not less than 2,752,000 acres, allowing one-fourth of this amount for wheat, 688,000 acres, with the average production at twenty-five one fourth of this amount for wheat, 688,000 acres, with the average production at twenty-five per acre, the total capacity of this staple alone would be 17,200,000 bushels per year. Of this amount the estimates place the home consumption, in round numbers, at 1,500,000 bushels, leaving an available export surplus of 15,700,000 bushels. The sub-division of its farming-land gives the State a great advantage over California, and when fully cultivated will undoubtedly divert no little trade from that onarter. divert no little trade from that quarter. -People in Vienna have lately complained

very much that—to use a Hibernicism—half the beer they get is foam, the dealers taking good care to fill the glasses in such a way as to incare to fill the glasses in such a way as to increase the quantity of froth. Consequently, the government, always mindful of the comforts and rights of the people, issued a decree that after November 1, 1875, no glass, or mug, or pot is to be used for retailing beer that has not engraved or ground upon it a gauge-line, below which the foam shall not extend. This line is regulated by the decree according to the capacity of the mug or tumbler, and must be strictly observed. In this country such a registered mug would lessen or tumbler, and must be strictly observed. In this country such a registered mug would lessen the profits of beer retailers fully one-third. As now manipulated by the tapster, the game appears to be to see how little beer and how much foam can be given for five or ten cents. This swindle of the beer-guzzler would be contemptible if anything connected with the beer treffer.

Readers and Contributors.

not fully prepaid in postage.—No MSS, preserved for future orders.

Unavailable MSS, promptly returned only where stamps accompanible inclosure, for such return.—No correspondence of any nature permissible in a package marked as "Book MS,"—MSS, which are imperfect are not used or wanted. In all cases our choice rests first apen merit or fitness; second, upon excellence of MS, as "copy" third, length. Of two MSS, of equal merit we always prefer the shorter.—Never write on both sides of a sheet. Use Commercial Note size paper as most convenient to editor and compositor, tearing off each page as it is written, and carefully giving it lit folio or page number.—A rejection by no means implies a want of merit. Many MSS, unavailable to us are well worthy of use.—All experienced and popular writers will find us ever ready to give their offerings sarly attention.—Correspondents must look to this column for all information permissible in a package marked as " Book MS." tention.—Correspondents must look to this column for all information in regard to contributions. We can not write letters except in special

Accepted: "Will's Geranium;" "The Romance of a Rose;" "How Bob Got Even;" "The Squire's Wooing;" "The Ruse that Lost;" "What Was It!" "A Treasury Romance;" "Stealing to Win;" "A Persecuted Man;" "Diamond or Paste?" "Who Had the Best of It!" "Almost by Chance;" "The Heart's Master-key."

Declined: Ms. by Abbie R.; "Bell Martin's De-ceit;" "A Mean Man;" "By the Dim Starlight;" "Mosses and Misses;" "The Dusky Bride;" "A Pert Answer;" "Miss McGonigle's Strategy;" "Mixed Drinks;" "A Moral in a Barrel;" "The Chief Brigand's Oath."

EM. N. Please don't write us the proposed let-er. We don't want the information.

B. K. J. The "club" we believe to be perfectly responsible. We have done business with it.

WILL L. Yes; in eleven numbers.—The person named is not one of the publishers of this paper. W. E. F. A box of initial note-paper, containing also a pearl-handled knife, is a neat philopena present.

C. L. B. "Club skates" are merely a fancy name for what is now the common skate, round at both

MERCURY, JR. Steamships are all provided with sails, and use them, when the wind is favorable, to increase their speed.

A LUBBER. A dog churn is easily extemporized, by making a dog-power apparatus. A water-wheel however is a better power. A very small stream will make a good power.

MRS. SARA B. M. The real black cake is made up of one pound of flour, two of butter, one-half pound of sugar, twenty eggs, one and one-half pounds of citron, six pounds raisins, three pounds currants, two ounces each of nutmeg, cinnamon and cloves, pint new cider hoiled with lemon syrup till reduced; bake three hours. A very absurd cake, we think—expensive, greasy, surfeiting and not good-looking. Paterson Ron. expensive, greasy, surfeiting and not good-looking.

PATERSON BOB. We use many more locomotives than any other country. Thus, the United States have 17,200; Great Britain, 10,900; Germany, 5,700; France, 4,900; Austria, 2,700; Russia, 1,600, and Italy, 1,200. A considerable number of American locomotives have been placed on the Russian rail-ways. The steamship engines of this country are not inferior to those of Great Britain. Our engines, our switches, our cutlery, our tools, our sewing-machines and pianos, etc., all are in demand all over the world.

over the world. Nut Cracker. Have sent your letter as requested.—The nursery business is not likely now to prove remunerative. There is too much competition, especially in the East. As to the peanut trade, we answer that the last season's penut crop reached 2.000,000 bushels, valued at \$3,000,000. The oil of the North Carolina nut is said to possess great commercial importance, as it is extensively used as a substitute for almond and clive oils.

"Anymors" writes: "I desire to make a sounce."

"Anxious" writes: "I desire to make a young lady friend a Christmas present. I have been acquainted with her about a month, and desire her further acquaintance. What kind of a present do you think would be most appropriate?" Has she nice photograph and autograph albums? Would she care for a new poem, or novel, or prayer-book, or engraving? Has she a handsome pocket-book, a card-case, a pretty pencil, a nice fan, a fruit-knife? Is she fond of natural flowers, bon-bons, perfumery, music? Just think over these questions, and select your own best answer.

"QUANDARY." New York City, writes: "What

that respect there can be no doubt that the Americans have the advantage of us, whether their excellence be owing to their system of education or to some more impalpable correlation between the national character and the organization of their fingers."

—Unless "something is done," grave engineers say that the day must come when the sands of the sea and the deposits of the rivers shall choke up the lagoons, obstruct the canals that constitute the port, swamp Venice, and either kill by wholesale or compel to flight its fever-stricken population. The work is already in some measure irreparably accomplished. The Venetian lagoons are a sheet of sea-water about fifty kilometers in length, with an average width of ten kilometers, closed in on the sea-side by a long line of sand-banks, intersected by canals, through which the water ebbs and flows with every rise and fall of the tide. Five of these canals—those of Chioggia, Malamocco, Lido, Sant Erasmo and Treporti—were the only channels of Venetian navigation from time immenorial; at the present time it is not without difficulty that one of them, that of Lido, can be kept clear and open for the admission of such vessels as the steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Company.

—Sir John Bennett, the Alderman and well-known watchmaker in the city of London, delivered a lecture the other day, during which he will place her upon the troide, or the most company of the most company.

John Bennett, the Alderman and well-known watchmaker in the city of London, delivered a lecture the other day, during which he will place her upon the troide, or the most company.

J. M. S. B., Chicago. Offer a lady the arm which will place her upon the inside, or the most comfortable side of the walk. In taking a lady to dinner always offer the right arm. A lady always takes the gentleman's arm; not the gentleman a lady's. There is no harm in eating cheese, but large quantities of it are considered unhealthy.

ADDIE EVARTS, Syracuse. If you are dressing in deep mourning, it is not proper to receive New Year's calls; but it is customary to suspend a little basket, by black ribbons, from the bell or door-knob, in which your friends may drop their card when passing to show that you are in their thoughts. A bride who receives New Year's calls is aided by her husband.

thoughts. A bride who receives New Year's calls is aided by her husband.

W. H. CAMPRELL, Galveston, writes: "I am engaged to a young lady whom I love very dearly. We are to be married in a few months. I have just heard, however, that she was engaged before I ever knew her, and that the engagement was broken; by which party I am unable to learn. When I asked her if it was true that she had been engaged before she knew me she assented, but offered no explanation. Do you not think she ought to have told me of the affair? And before I marry her would it not be my right to demand an explanation?" If you have been in every way satisfied with the young lady, and her love for you, until you learned of her previous engagement, we think you would be displaying a selfish and jealous spirit to insist upon learning all about that affair; and your doubts she might be justified in considering a direct insult. Have you never ha I any little love affairs or youthful flirtations of your own? And have you considered it necessary to tell the lady in question all about them? The circumstances may have been unpleasant or painful, or she may love you so devotedly that she scarcely gives a thought to a former attachment of trivial importance. Doubtless if you ask her lovingly to tell you of the circumstances she will do so.

HATTIE REEVES, Bergen, asks: "Do you think HATTIE REEVES, Bergen, asks: "Do you think there is any harm in dancing at private parties? A schoolmate of mine urges that dancing is wrong, on the grounds that for a strange gentleman to put his arm around a lady is an insult; but do you think her reason holds good as regards dancing with friends?" We think there is no more pleasant, graceful and social amusement for a mixed company than dancing. The pretty square dances are certainly free from all objections. Your friend's objection is a failure in that no real lady would think of dancing a round dance with a strange gentleman. Whether girls should druce round dances with their gentleman acquaintances generally, or merely with a lover and near relatives, is a matter best decided by their own womanly instincts or the wishes of their parents.

ELLA PLACE writes: "Is there any impropriety in

ELLA PLACE writes: "Is there any impropriety in sending a note to a young gentleman neighbor, asking him to come and make up a card party? When a lady sends a gentleman a written invitation to spend an evening with some friends, ought he not to answer the note if he cannot come?"

It is perfectly proper to send a gentleman a request that he will come and take part in a game of cards, if you know him to be familiar with cardplaying When a gentleman receives a written in writation, of any kind, he should make it his immediate duty to send a reply, politely notifying the person of his acceptance or refusal. If after accepting, he is unavoidably kept from fulfilling his engagement, he should not neglect to send his apology as soon as possible. If the invitation and acceptance are verbal the propriety of an apology in case of absence is no less urgent.

Unanswered questions on hand will appear

IN TIME TO COME,

BY EBEN E. REXFORD. Author of "Silver Threads Among the Gold."

The snow is falling, falling, Softly and white and still, And hides all the sentinel marbles By the graves upon the hill.

I sit and watch in the twilight
The flakes fall still and slow,
And dream of the dead dreams hidden
In graves that are long and low.

Snow of the winter, falling
Above the graves of our dead;
And the snows of a sorrow hiding
The graves of the dreams that fied!

Are the dear ones warm in their slumber Beneath the white, pure snow? Oh, answer me, answer me, loved ones, For I long so much to know!

Are the dreams that our sorrows cover Away from the sight of men, Waiting the resurrection Of a spring beyond our ken?

I believe that in some day coming Our dead will be dead no more, And our hopes will be sweet in Heaven Where graves shall be known no more.

Vials of Wrath:

THE GRAVE BETWEEN THEM

BY MRS. MARY REED CROWELL, AUTHOR OF "TWO GIRLS" LIVES," "LOVE-BLIND," "OATH-BOUND," "BARBARA'S FATE," ETC., ETC.

CHAPTER XVIII.

A MAN'S CURSE.

It had not been a difficult task for Georgia to free herself from Ida Wynne's society, after the two had gone to the parlor, leaving the gentlemen to discuss their wine. Ida was all impatience for Havelstock to join them, and while Georgia was wondering what she should invent as an excuse for leaving the party at so unusual an hour as nine, Ida was trying to think of a way whereby she might have Mr. Havelstock to herself for a tete-atete promenade.

seemed an endless while, the hour from just before eight, when they left the dining-room, and Ida fretted restlessly, from the

piano to the window, then to the piano again.
"It seems to me the gentlemen have an uncommon amount of interesting subject-matter, to-night. It is nearly nine, and they are

over their wine yet. Nearly nine! the words smote Georgia's ears as they left Ida's unconscious lips, like coals of molten lead. Nine—and what then?

She was very quiet, so that her demeanor was oddly in contrast with Ida's, who brightened wonderfully when footsteps, unmistaka-bly Mr. Lexington's and Mr. Havelstock's, neared the door. Some one passed out, leaving a faint odor of cigar behind them; then

Mr. Lexington entered alone.
"Frank desires me to excuse him to the ladies, and I am sure you will grant him the request. Miss Ida—you are merciful?"
Her eyes were full of disappointment, that

she took no especial pains to conceal.
"I think Mr. Havelstock is very ungallant, indeed. We have been awfully stupid, have-

n't we, cousin Georgia?"

Mr. Lexington smiled at her frowning fore-

have imperative business in the library that will detain me till midnight."

Georgia's heart gave a sudden bound of re
His hair had grown scant, and he altogether

"Then I shall use the opportunity to write up my correspondence. Good-night."

Ida was off at once, in one of her impulses,

leaving the husband and wife alone.

He did not speak to her, but crossed the room to a favorite lounging-chair, into which aroppea, weariness that touched the woman who watched him so closely, every fiber of her being burning to comfort, caress him. You are tired-Mr. Lexington?'

She ventured the remark in a timid sort of way that was ineffably sweet-even to him.

"Very. My head aches frightfully." She took several steps nearer him, then drew a chair beside him, strangely tender

and pitiful.
"May I smooth your hair? You—you used to like it.

She seemed ashamed to offer her services: yet, when she spoke, she would not have un-He shivered as her fingers touched his hair; she felt the tremor, and, in a sharp thrill of penitent love, laid her hand on his forehead, and drew back his head until he was forced to look in her eyes, that drooped toward himintense, soulful.

"Theo-can this breach not be bridged? Look at me, only a moment, and answer me Is it my fault? am I not penitent, willing to suffer anything rather than this living death?"

ly love, almost maddened him; and yet-he knew she was not in earnest; he was sure she had some object in view: had not faithful Havelstock warned him of this very thing? Was not now the time to show his authori ty, his injured pride?
"Theo—you know how I love you; you

know I am willing to forgive everything, if you will only take me back. Will you?" A moment of desperate resolve.

"No. It is I who need to forgive you. When I wrong you as you wrong me—then I will converse with you on this topic." Georgia's face convulsed with sharp pain.

"Theo, darling, I have done you no wrong -you cannot think it, surely. You know I love you, dearly, dearly, for all there is my baby's grave between us. But, see, my husband, I stretch my hands across it, and ask you to let me take you in their longing em-

She reached her beautiful arms out toward him, her beseeching eyes meeting his.

He turned his head away, after a cold, cruel look at her.

"That is all very well, in its place, although I am not an admirer of private theatricals." His voice was husky, and she noted a tremor in it. Would he be conquered yet by her

'I do not mean it-you think that? Ah, Theo, prove me; only let me love you; only let me live for you!'

Her lovely eyes thrilled him through and through, as he turned his handsome head again to look at her. Then, he arose deliberately from his chair, and looked in her face.

"Georgia, I am proof against all such attempts on your part to install yourself in my What your object is, I cannot pre tend to say; this I can say: I believe your each other. Even if I were not Mr. Lexing- eyes! Married? Not a soul in this we professions to be a sham and a fraud. You do ton's wife, you would be as little to me. Even knows that but Ethel and the clergyman!"

not love me, or you would never have wound- the tie our child would have been, is broken; ed my pride, hurt my feelings, and insulted my manhood as you did that never-to-be-forgotten day."

gotten day."

She listened in breathless silence, the old, cold horror gathering around her heart, the old woe returning to her eyes that, for one little moment, had been so lighted with love's pleading.

Then she bowed her head, with a quiet scorn, that he felt meant how deeply he had wronged her, and swept from his presence with the air of an insulted duchess.

The same pitiful story over and over; two natures, prone to misfortune, continually at warfare; two passionate souls who loved each other madly, idolatrously, ever repelled by the evil genius their love evoked; fire and ice; oil

and water—no commingling, no uniting.

In the hall Georgia paused to take a shawl from the rack, and then went out-to the illstarred tryst with Carleton Vincy.
She had made such a desperate effort to be

reconciled to her husband before she came here; she had actually humbled herself to him, and been repulsed, just as she expected would be the case—forever.

She was feeling miserably dejected and full

of keen bitterness when she entered the little summer-house, where she found Carleton Vincy before her, pacing impatiently to and

fro, with a dark frown on his coarse features.
"So you've actually put in an appearance, have you? It is nearly half-past nine, and in the coarse of the coa ten minutes more I should have sent in my card. Georgia made no immediate answer, as she

dropped wearily into a rustic chair near the "I came as soon as I could. Now, Mr.

Vincy, tell me what it is you want me for? I cannot possibly remain here longer than a few She tried to speak with a brave indifference she was far from feeling, and as a natural consequence failed, and Vincy noted both at-

tempt and non-success He laughed softly, as he pushed his hat off his forehead, and flung himself heavily on a

light iron settee. "Is it then so wonderful that a man desires an interview with his wife whom he has not seen for years and years? I will confess, hower, it is not the meeting I expected."

His eyes glowed redly as he looked critically with an admiring gaze that made Georgia shiver with repellant disgust.

When he spoke again, a second after, his voice was like it had been, years and years agone, when it had held such a witchery for the girl whom he had won so easily. "I can hardly realize you are Georgia-you this magnificent woman, with the cold pride of a duchess, with the grace of a fairy queen. What can have wrought the marvelous change

in you, whom I remember as a thin, fretful Georgia's eyes darkened, and her lips curled.

"I am not able to return the odious flattery Time and years have not improved you, Mr. Vincy. I remember a handsome, gentlemanly appearing man, whose personal beauty was a nask for his deep-dyed rascality and treacher ousness. I see now, the mask removed, and

He scowled under her stinging words, even while he knew what she averred was perfectly He had changed, wonderfully; he had grown much stouter in figure, and heavy, and coarse featured. His eyes wore a dim, blur-"I cannot imagine stupidity and you ladies in the same connection; but if such is the case, I fear you are doomed for to-night, as I

> repudiated the razor, so that his beard and moustache were long, rambling.
>
> He did not especially enjoy the scornfully-

> crutinizing gaze she bestowed upon him, and he frowned angrily.

"Well, which kave you finally decided upon —Satyr or Seraph? Whichever I am, re-member this—I am your husband. By Hea- It

ven, you shall remember that!"

His face wore a mocking, Satanic smile, and he bent his head nearer her.

"Mr. Vincy, you were my husband once; you are the father of my only child—as such I never can quite despise you, thoroughly as your conduct taught me to dislike and distrust you. You wooed and won me, and married ne when I was a foolish, ignorant child, who could form no possible opinion of what sort of usband you would make. Your perfect beauty fascinated me, and I went to my fate, ed by you."

He listened attentively to her low, bell-like oice, whose sweetness stirred him strangely he watched her beautiful face with a wild thrill at his wicked heart that had known a hundred loves; that, for the first time, was actually aroused by passion as sudden as ab-

sorbing, as fierce as hopeless.
"Then I did please you once, Georgia? in those olden days, when I was so cruelly wicked, of which I so repent me? For the sake

of those days, forgive me." He was not lounging on the settee now; his Her sweet, wistful voice, fraught with wife-love, almost maddened him; and yet—he ment made his blood rush with unwonted force through his veins. He had arisen from the seat, and was standing before her, in an attitude of entreaty, his eyes filled with emotion, his voice as sweet as in bygone

Georgia drew her chair several inches backward, with no token of softness or pity on her

"It is easy to forgive-" she sighed, as she thought of Lexington, and Vincy thought his

triumph was coming. "I can forgive you all the misery you have caused me—misery you know nothing of, and never will. But of what avail is my forgive-

ness? You are a stranger to me. I am Theodore Lexington's wife." She held her head up proudly, as she claimed the empty title of her darling's name, and in the surging tenderness that illumined her eyes, and in the ineffable sadness of her red lips, Vincy only saw a beauty that maddened

"By all that is eternal you are not his wife! You know it, as well as I do; you know your marriage is unlawful since I am alive; you are "H my own, and even were you not by any law in the calendar, you still should be, for I am a law unto myself."

Mingled with the passion in his face and eyes was a fierce exultation, almost savage in its defiance. He half smiled as he watched her, evidently expecting to see her shrink un-

der his words. She met his gaze quietly, with a conscious uncontrostrength that made him feel he could not of him. touch her heart. The thought lent new malignancy to his countenance as he listened to her

answer. "I have said we are henceforth nothing to each other. Even if I were not Mr. Lexing-

A quivering of her lips told of that blow to her—a double blow, dealt by the hand of the best beloved on earth; Vincy saw the agitation, and sneered.

"It is a good thing. Babies ought to die when they are as snarling and as puny as I remember ours was. Let that pass."

His heartlessness stung her to the quick. "Yes, let it pass, while I, her mother, tell you, her unworthy father, whom than imitate, I would rather know dead—when I tell you, you have no possible claim on me. The laws of New York State granted me a full, free divorce a year after you deserted me. I have the document safe in my possession.

She looked at him with eyes full of conscious power, her magnificent figure proudly erect, one hand lying on the rustic oaken table, displaying its perfect beauty and firmness.

A horrible oath burst from Vincy's lips "I heard it before; you need not think you tell me news, as you seem to delight in doing. But did I not just tell you I am a law unto myself? I swear it—that, though freed by our wonderful document, you are as much in my power as though you never owned it. Beautiful Georgia, do you think I shall stand calmly by and see your witchery, your charming fascination, and allow Lexington to be benefited by it?"

She shrunk before the devil in his eye; then, arose from her chair, aud drew her shawl over

"There is no need to prolong this useless interview, or to repeat it. I have shown you my position, which I never shall abandon. From the present moment, during which our paths have temporarily converged, they diverge again, forever. From this moment our acquaintance ceases, and to me you are as you were twenty fours hours ago—dead."

The quiet dismissal goaded him into a perfect frenzy. He grasped her dainty wrist with a hard, iron grip, and fairly hissed in her ear, so fearful was his furious rage.

"I swear it shall not be so! By every hope

you regard as sacred, I swear you shall repent this! I came to you, back from the dead, disposed to be conciliatory even after I had learned your falsity. I offer you my forgiveness, my affection—and you spurn me as if I was unfit the society of Mrs. Lexington, of Tanglewood! Now, I repudiate my offers, and in their place, I swear eternal vengeance. Instead of the friendship you reject, you shall accept my unsleeping hatred, you shall receive ten thousand curses! Go—go to your luxury, your aristocratic friends—and bear in your

ears this undying echo—curse you!"

A little gasp of terror burst from her, so passionate was his fury, and she fled from the summer house in a sudden impulse of fear.

Vincy watched her up the starlighted path,

his bloodshot eyes full of impotent fury. 'I'll compass heaven and earth before I'll

The half-muttered words had just left his ips, when a dark figure entered the vine-cov-

"Hello, Vincy! I'm just the man you want It was Frank Havelstock's voice, clear, joyous, yet full of subtle meaning.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE CONSPIRATORS' COMPACT.
WHEN Mr. Havelstock had lighted his cigar, and passed out the grand entrance, and into the quiet, starlighted grounds, there was an expression on his face that was different from any that had ever characterized it.

Every trace of his customary conscious se-

of countenance was gone. There was renity no gladness, no light-heartedness, not even a trace of his bold, scheming looks in either face or eyes. Instead, was a malignancy, a perfect fury of rage, a wild, impotent powerlessness that made him look like a very Satyr.

He was paler than a corpse—he, whom no circumstances had ever yet caused to pale, whose countenance habitually carried a ruddy

It was particularly striking—this deadwhite pallor, by contrast with his jetty beard, his heavy eyebrows, his raven hair; while his eyes, usually bright, piercing, questioning in their expressive darkness, seemed fairly radi-

ating a white light. He walked down the high flight of marble steps, with his knees so trembling that he hard ly was able to steady himself; his lips were quivering so convulsively that he flung away his newly-lighted cigar, a frightful oath com-ing from his mouth, as he fairly grit his teeth n a speechless rage. He struck off from the nain path, plunging into a copse of thick dark evergreens, that would have completely hidden him at noonday; arrived at the center amid the deep gloom, the ghostly stillness, the intense loneliness, he flung himself on the cool green grass, at full length, his face buried in his hands, his figure as motionless as if he were

That was a strange vigil he kept, alone with the night, while he gave full vent to all his mad imaginations; while he thought of Ethel in the sweet, wifely trustfulness, who wa waiting for him in the home where she had

been so happy. The memory of her pure, high-bred face, her dainty refined ways, cut him like a knife; and at the same instant a wild tremor of brutal wrath seized him as he realized what he had lost simply for that.

Half of Tanglewood! half of heaven, it eemed to him, as he lay there, fairly writhing in mad disappointment as he thought what he had lost. Wealth, position, ease, luxury beyond measure; the very thing he had set

himself to win, but so differently.

The tedious waiting, the subtle plotting all lispensed with, and, instead, such a prize held out to him, for him to take.

Was ever man so cursed as I? Have all the fiends of the pit been let loose to draw me into this infernal net? Oh! the blessed fool I have made myself, all for a girl's pretty facecurse her!"

His voice was husky as he uttered the malediction, that no ears heard but his own. he sprung up, like a tiger disturbed in his lair, and paced restlessly to and fro on the cool, green grass that he trampled so recklessly

"Half of it all!-owner of all I can see when stand in the door and look from zenith to horizon! and just lost! barely lost! curse her!' The hissing words were fearful to hear; he clenched his hands till the long, almond nails made purple dents in the palms; he muttered terrible imprecations, pacing to and fro with ever. hasty, aimless strides; his eyes burning with a deep glow; his lips almost foaming with the incontrollable fury that had taken possession

'Lose it? Give it up, the one chance of my life-time. I'd sell my soul first. A thousand maledictions on my foolish stupidness for being inveigled into a marriage by a pair of dark eyes! Married? Not a soul in this world and distinguished-looking stranger before

His reason, his intellect began to emerge from the dense cloud of wrath that had enveloped them, and as a consequence he grew calmer, and was able to gather together his scheming wits.

He walked to and fro more calmly, for another half-hour, and at length, still pale, still bearing distinct traces of his inward tempest, he emerged from the copse, and walked slowly down the path Georgia had taken. As he neared the summer house he heard voices, and it instantly recurred to him that he had seen Georgia when he left the house, so that in all probability it was she who was in the summer-

But with whom? He trod softly as he neared the vine-covered casement at the rear; he stepped lightly over the loose twigs until he gained a position where he commanded both sight and hearing; where he listened with keen relish to the interview

wife; and from which spot he had suddenly appeared to Vincy after Georgia's departure. The brilliant starlight was sufficient to enable features and expressions to be perfectly seen; and as Havelstock entered, with light, careless words on his lips, Vincy stared in stupid amazement.

between Carleton Vincy and his divorced

"What is the matter? Have you seen a

ghost, or are you one yourself?"
Havelstock laughed, chillingly—so mirthlessly that its sound was horrible to hear. "Ghosts are not supposed to endure what I've gone through since sunset. Vincy, you are in awkward need of a helpful, valuable friend—so am I. Shall we strike a bargain?"
Vincy listened to the cold, metallic tones of Havelstock's voice with an inward glee at the

thought of securing him as an ally against "You speak the truth, Havelstock. I do need a faithful friend who will lend me assistance and advice while he guards my secret. In return for such services I would scruple at

nothing. The two men looked in each other's eyes silently, meaningly. Then Havelstock held out his hand.

"It is a mutual understanding, then." Vincy grasped his hand and pressed it a moment in confirmation.

Then he took a cigar-case from his pocket, from which they selected cigars. Then Havel-stock opened the vile campaign in which they had enlisted.

"You wonder why I was so unlike myself, Vincy. Don't you think a fellow fixed as I am has every reason to look pale, and feel more so?

He rapidly related Mr. Lexington's offer, and the fact of his marriage, that he had related a month before to Vincy.

"It is a mess—a bad mess," said Vincy, slowly, when Havelstock had finished. "You

married her for love, and now you find her beauty has turned into a curse for you." "That's it; and it makes me hate her to

think she stands between me and luck."
"She need not," said Vincy, so quietly that
Havelstock started in shocked amazement. "Good heavens, man, your cold-blooded assertion horrifles even me. Don't suggest such a thing; my hands were never yet red with-

Vincy laughed softly.

"You altogether misapprehend me, my dear old fellow. I intended no harm even to a hair of your wife's head. I merely said she

need not stand in your way.

Havelstock took his cigar from his lips and eved Vincy in wonderment 'What do you mean? Is there any possible way for me to secure Tanglewood, or rather half of it, under existing circumstances?"

His eyes gleamed eagerly. "There is a way whereby you may marry Miss Wynne, thereby securing her fortune as well as Mr. Lexington's offer, and yet not a hair of Mrs. Havelstock's head be injured."

He spoke with an air of conscious assurance that fairly thrilled Havelstock. Vincy went on, "If you will help me get Georgia Lexington in my power again—if you will assist me to wreak my revenge on her-I will point out your way, step by step, till you reach the very topmost rung of the ladder you

want to climb. I swear I will," returned Havelstock,

"Now, the plan?" So, sitting there in the silent, solemn noon of night, the two men laid their devilish plot to destroy Ethel Havelstock's happiness-s innocent Ethel, who that very moment lay sleeping with one hand under her pink cheek, dreaming of the time when her husband should

return. (To be continued—commenced in No. 298.)

Erminie:

THE GIPSY QUEEN'S VOW

BY MRS. MAY AGNES FLEMING. AUTHOR OF "THE DARK SECRET," "AN AW-FUL MYSTERY," "VICTORIA," ETC., ETC.

CHAPTER XXVII.

GREEK MEETS GREEK.

I scorn,' quoth she. 'thou coxcomb silly, Quarter or counsel from a foe. If thou canst force me to it, do.'"—HUDIBRAS,

I had rather chop this hand off at a blow, And with the other fling it in thy face, Than stoop to thee."

—SHAKSPEARE. PETRONILLA rode gayly along to the little ustling, half-village, half-city, Judestown, thinking over her late surprising proposal, and scarcely knowing whether to laugh at or pity poor Mr. Toosypegs. As she reached town these thoughts were dispelled by the

ly occupied in nodding to her various friends and acquaintances as she passed Pet's destination was the post-office, a large building which served as a store, hotel, and post, all in one. As she drew reinat the door, the mail-coach drew up, and Pet lingered where she was a moment, in order to avoid the

busy scenes around, and Pet found herself ful-

crowd. passengers crowded in, and as the coach-door opened, a young gentleman sprung out and assisted a lady, closely vailed, to alight. Neither of them noticed Pet; so they did not observe her quick start, her sudden flush, and the vivid lighting up of her beauti ful eyes.

These outward and very unwonted signs of emotion on Pet's part passed away quickly as they came, and in one minute more she was as cool, saucy, and composed as "Is there any one here who will drive us to

Old Barrens Cottage?" said the young gentleman, glancing at the landlord. Yes, sir; in ten minutes, sir; just step in sir; my boy's gone off in a gig with a gent but he'll be back soon. Walk right in this way, sir," replied the obsequious landlord,

"I would rather not wait," said the gentleman. "Can you not let me have some other conveyance, and I will drive over my-

"Very sorry, sir, but they're all engaged. Just step in, sir, you and your good lady,

Pet fancied she heard a low, sweet laugh from under the thick, brown vail, and the gentleman smiled as he followed the bustling host

into the well-sanded parlor.

In one moment Pet was off her horse, and consigning him to the care of the hostler, darted in by a side door and rung a peal that presently brought the hostess, a pleasant-faced, fat, little woman, in a tremendous flutter, into the room.

"Laws! Miss Petronilla, is it you? Why, you haven't been to see me this long time. How do you do?"

"I'm very well, thank you, Mrs. Gudge; but see here—did you notice that gentleman and lady who have just gone into the par-

"That tall, handsome young man, with all them there mustaches?—yes, I seen him, Miss Pet.'

"Well, do you know who he is?" "No; though it does kinder seem to me as if I'd seen him somewhere before. The lady, his wife, I take it, kept her vail down, and I couldn't see her face. No; I don't know 'em,

Miss Pet. "Well, that don't matter; I do. And now, Mrs. Gudge, I want you to help me in a splendid piece of—of—"

"Mischief, Miss Pet," said the woman. slyly.
"No, not exactly—just fun. I want you to bring a suit of your son Bob's clothes up

here. I'm going to dress myself in them, and when he comes with the gig let me drive them over. My riding-habit and pony can remain here till I send for them." "Now, Miss Pet-"

"Now, Mrs. Gudge, don't bother me! Go, like a dear old soul. I'll give you a kiss if you do."
"But the judge—"

"But the judge—"
"Oh, the judge won't know anything about it unless you tell him. There, be off! I want to be dressed before Bob comes. If you don't hurry I'll lose the most splendid joke ever was. Hurry now! Put Mr. Gudge up to it, so the cat won't get out of the bag."

With a deprecating shake of her head and upturning of her eyes, the little hostess bustled out, inwardly wondering what "Miss Pet would do next."

Pet, in the meantime, with her wicked black eyes scintillating with the prospect of coming fun, was rapidly divesting herself of her hat and riding-habit. And then little Mrs. Gudge made her appearance with her son and heir's "Sunday-go-to-meetin's" and stayed to assist the fairy in her frolic, and find out who the handsome owner of the "mustarchers" was. But Pet was as close as a clam, and only laughed at the landlady's "pumping," while she dived desperately into Bob's pants and coat, which—except being narrow where Pet thought they ought to be wide, and wide where they ought to be narrow, fitted her very well. Then she combed her short, dancing, black curls to one side, over her round, boyish forehead, and setting upon them a jaunty Scotch cap, stood there, bright, saucy, and smiling, as handsome and dashing a little fellow as you

could see in a long summer-day. "Well, laws! you do make a pretty boy, and no mistake, Miss Pet," said the woman, admiringly; "them handsome eyes of yours and shaking, shining curls is jest the thing! But your hands—they're a heap too small and

deliky-looking for a boy's." "Oh! well, I'll rub some mud on them when I get out. They're not the whitest in the world any way; and besides, they won't look very closely at a little cab-boy's hands."
"Now, if you want to be like a boy, you

must take long steps, and stick your hands in your pockets, and swear. Can you swear, Miss Pet?" said the woman, seriously.

"Well, I never tried," said Pet, laughing; "and as I don't know any cethe off by heart." 'and as I don't know any oaths off by hear I guess I won't mind, for fear the effect would

be a failure." "It's a pity you don't," said Mrs. Gudge, thoughtfully; "all boys allers swears at the horses. You must look sassy—but that comes natural enough to you; and you had better smoke a pipe or chew some tobacco, on the

road-which will you do, Miss Pet?" "Well, really, Mrs. Gudge, I'd rather not do either, if it's all the same to you," Pet; "but you mus'n't keep calling me 'Miss Pet,' you know; my name's Bob, now, Bob Gudge.

So it is. Laws! if it ain't funny; but I'm afraid they'll find you out if you don't do none of those things. Can you whistle, Miss-Bob, For reply, Pet puckered up her rosy mouth, and whistled "Hail Columbia," in a way that

made little Mrs. Gudge's eyes snap with delight. Here comes Bob!" she cried, as a gig came rattling into the yard. "You wait here a minute and I'll fix things all right."

Out flew Mrs. Gudge, and called off Bob to some secret corner, and then she showed her head in at the door and called: "Come, now, Miss—Bob, and drive round to the front door while I tell the lady and

gentleman all's right now." Pet, imitating Bob's shuffling swagger, went out to the yard, sprung up on the front seat, took the reins, and, in masterly style, turned the horses, and drove around to the front door. Scarcely had she got there and struck up 'Hail Columbia" in her shrillest key, than the dark, handsome gentleman with the "mustarchers" came out with the lady, who was still vailed, followed by the host and hostess.

dark, bright splendor a little, sat whistling away, looking as cool as a cucumber, if not several degrees cooler. The young gentleman handed the lady in, and she took her place on the back seat. 'Now, Minnie, I'm going to sit here with the driver and have a chat with him," said the

on whose faces rested a broad grin. Pet, with

her cap pulled over her eyes, to shade them

from the hot sun, and also to subdue their

young .man; "these cunning little vagrants know everything." The shrill whistle rose an octave higher. "Very well," said the young lady, in low, laughing tones; "anything to put an end to

that piercing whistle. I suppose he cannot talk to you and whistle together?" "Can't I, though?" thought the small urchin, who held the reins. "We'll see that, Miss Erminie Germaine," and higher and higher still

rose the sharp, shrill notes "Come, my lad, start," cried the gentleman, springing in, "and if it's not too much trouble, might I request you to stop whistling? It may be, and no doubt is, owing to our bad taste, but we cannot appreciate it as it de

with a profusion of bows to the well-dressed "Don't see no harm in whistling; nobody never objects to it," said Pet, imitating to per-

fection the gruff, surly tones of Master Bob. "I'm fond of music myself, if you ain't, and so is the hoss, who would not go a step if I didn't whistle; so I'll just keep on if it's all the same to you." And another stave of "Hail pierced the air.

"How long does it take you to drive to the Barrens!" Well, sometimes longer and sometimes

shorter; and then again not so long," said the driver, touching the horse daintily with his

"Quite enlightened, thank you! Do you know the family at old Barrens cottage?" "There ain't no family there; there's only the old woman what can't walk or nothin' nd a nigger. Them two don't make one whole member of society, let alone a family. Was you acquainted with them, square?"

'Slightly so," said the gentleman, smiling. "Well, maybe you knew that there cove that went away—young Mr. Ray?" "I believe I had that honor," replied the

young man, with the smile still on his handsome face.

"Honor! humph! I reckon you're the only one ever thought it an honor to know him," said the lad, grimly. "He always was a vagabones, and ended as all vagabones must, at last."

For one moment the young gentleman glanced at the driver, evidently hesitating whether to pitch him then and there out of the gig or not; but seeing only a little boy with an exceedingly muddy face, he thought better of it, and said:

"Well, this is really pleasant to listen to! And how did this vagabones, as you call him,

"Why, he was sent away from home, when they couldn't stand him any longer; and the last we heard of him was that he was in State Prison for life.

A low peal of laughter from the young lady followed this, in which, after a prolonged stare of astonishment, the gentleman was obliged

to join, "Well, for cool, innate impudence, and straightforward bluntness, I'll back you against the world, my good youth," said the young man, while the little driver sat looking as sober as a judge.

"And the young lady who lived there, what became of her?"

"There wasn't never no young lady," said the lad; "there was a little gal with yaller hair, but she went off, too; and I expect, ran away with some one-eyed fiddler or other. They was English, and no better couldn't have been expected," said the boy, in strong accents

Another low laugh from the young lady and a prolonged whistle from the gentleman fol-

"Well, I am sorry my friends have turned out so badly. How about the others, now; Judge Lawless and his family, for instance; Admiral Havenful, Mr. and Miss Toosypegs, and the rest?"

They're all hanging together! Mr. Toosypegs is going to get married and take in sewing for a living; and Miss Priscilla goes round making vinegar.'

"Making what?" "Vinegar," said the lad, gravely. "The grocers gets her to look into barrels of water, when they turns into vinegar mediately."

"I shouldn't wonder," said the gentleman, laughing; "but the others—Judge Lawless, Miss Lawless, what of her?"
"Oh, she's all right. Don't expect she'll be

Miss Lawless, though, much longer," said the boy. "No? why? how? what do you mean?" said

the young gentleman, starting so suddenly that the boy looked up, apparently quite terrifled by this unexpected outburst.

"See here, square, you'll skeer the hoss if you keep on like this. If you're subjick to 'tacks of this kind you ought for to have told me before we started, and not 'larm the hoss,' said the boy, sharply. "Tell me what you mean by that? Speal

said the young man, vehemently.
"By what? skeering the hoss?" said the lad.

"No, about Miss Lawless," was the impetu-"Oh! Well, I have hearn tell she was goin" to be married. Likely as not she is too; got lots of beaux."

The young gentleman's face flushed for a moment, and then grew set and stern.
"Did you hear who she was to be married

to?" said the young lady, leaning over. "No, marm; nobody never can tell what she'll do; likely as not she'll get married to the one nobody expects her to marry. She always was the contrariest young woman always that ever was," said the boy, casting a quick, bright, searching glance from under his long eyelashes, at the handsome face of the gentle man. And it was a handsome face, the very handsomest the saucy little driver had ever seen; and it might have been his close proximity to its owner that sent such quick thrills to the heart of the quondam boy, and set it beating so unnecessarily fast under the jaunty black coat. The dark, clear complexion; the straight, classic features; the thick, jetty, clustering hair; the high, princely brow; the bold, flashing, falcon, black eyes; the thin, curving nostril, that showed his high blood; the proud, haughty mouth, shaded by a thick, black mustache; the tall, slight, elegant form; the high, kingly movements—these made up the outward attractions of him by whose side Pet sat. Of course, every reade above the artless age of five knows as well as I do who it is, so there is not the slightest

mond Germaine. There was a long silence after this. The young gentleman, with a cold, almost sarcastic watched the objects as they passed, and the little boy drove on, whistling as if his life depended on it.

necessity for announcing his name as Ray-

Then the young lady leaned over and began a conversation in a low voice with her companon, to which he replied in the same tone. The lady had thrown back her vail, disclosing a face of such rare loveliness that it seemed a downright shame, not to say sin, to hide it behind that odious brown covering. The driver turned round to catch a better view of her face, and the young lady met the full splendor of those dazzling dark orbs. The boy instantly turned, and began whistling louder than

ever.
"What a handsome boy!" said the young girl, in a low tone, yet loud enough for the "boy" in question to hear. "What splendid eyes! I thought there could be but one such pair of eyes in the world, and those_"

Her companion made a slight gesture that arrested the name she would have uttered; and, glancing at the boy, said, rather coldly:
"Yes; he is handsome, if his face was washed.

"Now, Ray," said the young lady, laughing, "that is altogether too bad. Those radiant eyes are destined to break many a heart yet.' 'That they are!" mentally exclaimed the

"How fortunate for some of your admirers, Ermie, he is not a few years older," said Ray (we may as well call him so at once, and have done with it). "Those dark, bright, handsome eyes wouldn't have left you the faintest trace of a heart; and then what would poor Ranty have done?"

"Pshaw, Ray," said Erminie, with a most becoming blush, "what nonsense! Oh, look! we are almost home. There is Dismal Hollow, and there—there— I declare! that's Mr. Toosypegs himself, riding out of the pine woods. Why, he hasn't changed the least in the world since I saw him last."

The little driver gave his cap a pull further over his face as Ray shouted to Mr. Toosy-

pegs.

The next moment, that disconsolate wooer was by the side of the gig, shaking hands with Ray and Erminie, and asking a dozen questions in a breath.

"How did you come? When did you come? How did you meet?" breathlessly demanded the astonished and delighted Mr. Toosypegs. "I called for Erminie at her convent. She is not going back any more; my visit will probably be a short one. I hope Miss Toosypegs and all our friends are well?"
"Yes; all well. I am very much obliged

to you. Did you pass through Jud "Of course. How else could we "And didn't you meet Miss Pet?" Did you pass through Judestown?" ourse. How else could we get here?" "Miss Lawless? No. Was she at Judes-

town?" said Erminie, eagerly; while Ray found something so attractive among the tree that he could not possibly remove his eyes from it. "Oh, I should have liked to have seen her so much! Yes; she went to Judestown this morning.

and has not got back. My goodness! it is the greatest wonder you didn't see her. What a pity she didn't know you've come! she would be here in a flash."

"Is she to be married, do you know, Mr. cosypegs?" said Erminie, in a low voice; "we eard she was."

The little boy glanced from the corner of his eye, and saw a faint red on the dark cheek of the tall, handsome, Spanish-looking gentleman beside him.

Mr. Toosypegs turned pale; even his very freckles turned the color of buttermilk curds at the question. "Get married! Goodness gracious! I was

just saying so. Oh, I knew very well she would go and heave herself away on somebody. Who is she going to be married to, Miss Minnie "I don't know; it was this little boy who told us," said Erminie, glancing toward him.

"Well, I don't know, neither; only hearn tell," said the lad, shortly. "Perhaps it is only a report. When will you come over to the cottage, Mr. Toosy-

This evening, Miss Minnie; and I guess Aunt Prisciller will come, too. She hasn't had any new caps or collars since you went away, and has ever so many to get made."

"Very well; I will make them. Good-by, till then," said Erminie, smiling, as they drove

A short time sufficed to bring them to the

The driver was invited in, but declined, and turned to go,

"If you see Miss Lawless on your way, will you tell her to hurry here?" said Erminie, as

Yes'm; all right!" said the boy, closing his hand over the coin Ray gave him; and then touching his cap to Erminie, dashed away.

Lucy's delight exceeded all bounds at beholding "young mars'r and misses" again; and then Ray and Erminie, with some difficul-ty, extricated themselves from her violent caresses, went up-stairs, and entered the room of

Many and sad were the changes years, and sorrow, and a sort of chronic remorse for her past acts had wrought in her. She sat in a lable to move any portion of her body but her head; her hard, dark, grim face, bony, sharp, and hollow, the protruding bones just covered by a wrinkled covering of skin; but the flerce, blazing black eyes were still unchanged.

Erminie, with the exclamation, "My dearest grandmother!" went over, and throwing her snowy arms around her neck, kissed the dark, withered cheek.

The old woman glanced at her, and saw the now beautiful, feminine, but perfect image of ord Ernest Villiers. The same large, dark, beautiful violet-blue eyes; the same fair, silken, golden hair; the same clear, transparent complexion; the same elegant, graceful move-ments; the very expression of the features complete. All her old hatred revived at the sight of the lovely, high-born girl. With a quick, flerce gesture, she pushed her aside, and strove to glance around for the other she ex-

Ray stepped forward, and touched his lips cenderly to her forehead.

Holding his hand, she made him stand off where she could the better see him, and then she scrutinized him from head to foot. There, before her, he stood, the living embodiment of what her son had been at his age, the very image of him she had so passionately loved and so sadly lost. She could scarcely persuade herself that Reginald had not risen from the grave to meet her again. There was his very gipsy skin, and eyes of darkened fire; the curl ng locks of jet, and tall, princely form; but he expression of the mouth was different; his smile was Erminie's exactly; and altogether there was a strong, undefined, puzzling resemblance between them, that for a moment darkly clouded the brow of the gipsy as she ob served it. The only being in the wide world she cared for now, was Ray. Erminie might win all other hearts, but the gipsy Ketura's was as flint to her. She had hated her from the first; she hated her still; she would hate her until the last, for the sake of the race from which she sprung.

Seeing she was not wanted, Erminie left the room to change her traveling-dress; and Ray, seating himself beside his grandmother, proceeded to tell her of his studies, his progress, his hopes and ambition for the future. name he did not mention, that of Pet Lawless: and yet it was thrilling and vibrating at his heart strings, as he listened impatiently for the quick, sharp clatter of her horse's hoofs.

But hours passed, and she came not; and Ray, angry at himself for caring or feeling so deeply disappointed, descended to join Ermi-

"What is Miss Lawless to me:" was the impetuous thought that sent the flery blood careering to his brow, "She an heiress, and I a pauper-a beggar, with the tainted gipsy blood in my veins. We were friends some shall never know I have dared to lift my eyes tide always covered this a considerable length

dozens of better men crazy with her witchery; and can I rely on my own strength to shield me from her arts? Pshaw! she will not think it worth while, though, to stoop to flirt with me. I, a menial, educated by the bounty of her uncle. I am safe enough, and will think of her no mor

A very laudable resolution it was, on the young gentleman's part, but one which he found some difficulty in carrying out, inasmuch as Mr. and Miss Toosypegs and Admiral Havenful came in just then; and after the first greetings were over, the whole conversa-tion turned on Pet, her tricks, frolics, flirtations, capers, and caprices; and Ray found himself listening with an intense eagerness that he was half inclined to be enraged at

himself for feeling.
Then, just as night was falling, the gallop of a horse was heard coming through the for est road; and, a few minutes later, Pet alighted at the gate, darted up the walk, burst, like the impetuous little whirlwind she was, into the cottage, clasped Erminie in her arms, and kissed her again and again, until Ray-though nothing earthly would have made him own it even to himself-would have given untold wealth to have stood in his sister's gaiters. Three somewhat furious embraces, that quite took away Erminie's breath, being over, Miss Lawless found time to glance at the rest of the company, and seeing Ray, as he stood, tall, and dark, and silent, by the window, went over and held out her hand.

There was something more nearly approaching to timidity in the action, and in the quick glance and quicker dropping of her resplendent eyes than any one had ever seen Pet manifest before. Ray bent over the little dark hand, whose touch sent a quick, sudden thrill to his inmost heart, and thought that, in all his life, he had never seen any one so beautiful as she looked then, with her vailed eyes, and drooping ringlets, and long, waving plumes that bent over her hat, touching her glowing cheeks as if enamored of the darkly splendid face beneath.

"Humph! A cold welcome, my little Mother Cary's Chicken," grunted the admiral. Why don't you kiss him like you did Snowdrop? That's no way to welcome a friend you haven't seen for three whole blessed years."

Ray's eyes met hers, and the color flushed to her very brow; then, withdrawing her hand, she tossed her saucy head till all her jetty curls flashed and sparkled, and throwing herself into a seat, began talking to Erminie as if for a wager.
"Who told you we were come?" asked Er-

minie. 'No one," said Pet. "It was an inspira-

tion from on high, I expect, that told me I should find you here." "It's a wonder you did not see us at Judestown; we remained there some time."
"Well, how do you know I didn't see you?"

said Pet. "Why, you surely-oh, Pet! did you see us,

and never spoke?" said Erminie, reproachfully.
"Well, I was otherwise engaged, you know in fact, there was a young gentleman, a very young gentleman, in the case—and I couldn't very well have presented myself any sooner than I did," said Pet. "One of her lovers," thought Ray, with a

curling lip. "Guess what the little boy, who drove us ver, told us about you, Pet?" said Erminie,

laughing.
"What? Nothing naughty, I hope. "Well, I don't know; that's as it may be. Shall I tell you what he said?" Of course; I like to hear what people say

"Well, then, he said you were going to be married. "Not possible! What an astounding revela-

tion! Did you think I was going to be an old "Then it is true? Is it any harm to ask

who the happy man is, Pet?" "Well, I haven't quite decided vet. I hav them through a severe course of martyrdom every day. The one who survives it (not more than one can possibly survive it), I shall probably make miserable for life, by bestowing upon him my hand-and heart, I was going to say, only, fortunately, they forgot to give me one when I was made.

Erminie laughed, and then the conversation ecame general, and two hours imperceptibly slipped away. Ray having wrought himself up to the belief that Miss Lawless was a heartless flirt, worthy of no higher feeling than contempt he, in order to resist the dark witchery of he magnetic eyes, wrapped himself up in his very coldest mantle of pride, and addressed just as little of his conversation to her as he possibly could, without being positively rude. proud in her own way as himself, noticed this at once, and her cheeks flushed, and her eyes flashed, for a moment, with anger and pride Then these signs of emotion passed away, and she grew her own cool, careless self again, alking away recklessly, and laughing contemptuously at all sentiment, until Ray was more than ever convinced that the world had spoiled her, and that she was as arrant a coquette as ever made a fool of a sensible man. As they arose to go, Ray, feeling himself ound in courtesy, offered to escort her home. but Pet coldly and curtly declined; and vaulting into her saddle, dashed off at a break-neck ace, madly reckless even for her.

Looking back once, she caught a glimpse of a tall, dark form leaning against a tree with tolded arms and watching her still. Did she, with her light, sparkling, thoughtless nature, realize the struggle going on in that young heart, between love and pride, at that moment?

Of course, the arrival of Ray and Erminie precluded her "exploring expedition," as she called it, to the sea-shore. and part of the afternoon, were spent with Erminie: but reaching home a little before sunset, she suddenly remembered it, and started off on the spur of the moment, like a female Don Quixote, in search of adventures.

"It's too late to begin a regular search," thought Pet, as she ran down the bank leading to the shore; "so I'll just have a look round e place, and come back some other day and have a real good hunt for smugglers.'

Fifteen minutes brought her to the beach, and there she paused to look round. The sands for a long distance out were bare; but the tide was slowly tramping inward. On the other hand, a huge wall of beetling rocks and projecting crags met the eye; but these walls of rock were so smooth and perpendicular, and so dizzi-y high, that the boldest sailor, used to climbing all his life, would have hesitated before attempting to clamber up. There were two paths leading to the shore—the one Pet had just descended, and another about half a mile distant. Between these the massive wall of rock chose thing more, perhaps—in the years that have to indulge itself in a sudden impetuous rush out, passed; but neither of us understood our relative positions, then. No; proud as she is, she a cat could hardly have climbed safely. The to her fasher's daughter. I was a fool to come of time before it could reach the sands on either

over to the opposite side, unless he had a boat,

or could swim.

"Now," thought Pet, "I'll have to look sharp and not let the tide catch me on the other side of that bluff, there, or if I do, I'll have a walk of half a mile along the beach to the other road, and after that over a mile to get home, which is a promenade I am not anxious for. I might swim across, it is true, but swimming with all one's clothes on is not the pleasantest or safest thing in the world; and all the smugglers this side of Pompey's Pillar are not worth the cold I would catch. I'll just walk over and look at the rocks, and then come back again."

Following up this intention, Pet walked slowly along, scanning the high, dark, frowning rocks with a curious eye. As far as she could see, there was not the slightest trace of an opening anywhere; yet the people said that some place along the shore the smugglers had a rendezvous. Pet's keen eyes detected every fissure large enough to hold a mouse, but no trace of secret cave or hidden cavern could be seen.

"I might have known it was all nonsense." said Pet, mentally. "The notion of finding an underground cave full of robbers and jewels, and all that sort of thing, is too much like a play, or a story in the 'Arabian Nights,' to be natural. However, as the night's fine, I'll just go on and look on the other side of the bluff. By this time she had reached the high projecting bowlders, and she paused for a m

o glance at the sea. It was still several vards distant, and Pet felt sure she could go down some distance, and return again before the rising tide would bar her passage. The sun had set and there was no moon; but the starlight was bright and the sea breeze cool and invigorating; so Pet, in high spirits, walked on. Here and there she could catch

the white sail of some boat, skimming over the waves; but the long beach was lonely and deserted. "Well, I guess I may as well turn back now," said Pet, half aloud. "I am afraid my search after smugglers is going to be unsuc cessful, after all. I haven't caught anything

this evening, that's certain." "But something has caught you, pretty one," said a voice, close behind her, so close and sudden that Pet jumped round with a startled ejaculation, and found herself face to face with her sometime tutor and discarded lover,

Rozzel Garnet. His face was flushed, his eyes were gleaming with triumph, as he laid one powerful hand on her shoulder, and held her fast.

In one instant the whole danger of her situation flashed upon Pet. She had made this man her deadly enemy; he had probably long waited for an opportunity for revenge-here she was completely in his power, alone on the long, freary, deserted beach, where her cries, if she uttered any, could reach no ear. Above her towered the high, precipitous, baetling rocks that she could not climb; on the other hand, spread out the boundless ocean, more merciful than him into whose hands she had fallen,

Like lightning, it all passed through her nind, and for one moment she quailed. then her brave heart rose; this was no time for puerile fears, and she faced round, drew up her slight form to its full hight, and met her enemy with a dauntless eve.

"Good-evening, Mr. Garnet," she said, com-posedly. "This is an unexpected pleasure. We thought you had gone away." "Ah! did you? Gone where, Miss Lawless?"

he said, with a sinister smile.
"Well—anywhere—to the county jail, as likely as not; but people don't always get their deserts in this world."

"Very true, Miss Pet; but you are, at present, in a fair way to get yours."
"Humph! You'll allow me to differ from you, there. I deserve something better than bad company, I hope; so permit me to wish you a very good evening, Mr. Garnet."

"Not so fast, Miss Lawless; you must do your humble servant the honor of conferring our company upon him for a few days. As some four or five on trial, and I generally put have not seen you for so long a time, it would

be highly impolite, not to say cruel, to hasten away so soon now."
"Indeed! Mr. Garnet—in-deed!" said Pet, arching her brows. "Your lesson in the library did not cure you, I see. Are you aware there is such a thing as a jail in Judestown, where refractory gentlemen who threaten peaceable citizens are sometimes taken for a change of air? Really, Mr. Garnet, I think a little wholesome correction would not hurt you in the least.

"No, Miss Lawless, I have not forgotten that scene in the library of your father's house," said Garnet, tightening his grasp, till Pet winced with pain. "My hand bears the mark of your sharp teeth yet; and as I am deeply your debtor for that Judas-kiss, I shall pay you in your own coin before either of us are many hours older. Did you think how near retribution was when you gave me that sharp caress, Miss Lawless?"

Sharp caress.' I suppose that means a bite. If you're not anxious to test their sharpness again, Mr. Garnet, you'll let go my arm. Faith! I wish I had made one of my servants horsewhip you from my gates, that day; you would not have dared to come sneaking round like a white-livered coward, that you are-

now! Petronilla Lawless, take care!" he hissed,

with a flerce gleam of his eye.
"Take care of what? I'm not afraid of you,
Rozzel Garnet," flashed Pet. "Anything in the shape of a man who would go round play ing the spy on an unprotected girl, has sunk rather low to be feared by me. Take care, you! I vow! if there is such a thing as a cowhide in the country, I shall have you thrashed for this, within an inch of your cowardly life "

"And get your attached friend, the gipsy beggar, to administer it—sh, Miss Lawless!" he said, with the smile of a flend. "What a pity he is not here, like a true knight-errant, rescue his lady love!" "It's well for you he's not, or he wouldn't

leave a whole bone in your miserable skin. Let me go, I tell you! Your presence is pollution," said Pet, struggling to get free.

He held her with a grasp of iron, and watched her ineffectual efforts with a grim smile.

"I told you when we would meet again you would plead to me," he said, with an evil gleam of his snake-like eyes. "That time

"Has it, indeed?" said Pet. "Well, if you have heard or are likely to hear me pleading to anybody under heaven, I must say you have a wonderful pair of ears. I have read of a gen- litter; the entrance to this wild retreat; a tleman called Fine-ear, who could hear the startling discovery she had made sincegrass growing; but, upon my word, he couldn't old a candle to you!"

The time will come, girl, when you will pallet beneath the dim lamp. grovel and plead at my very feet, only to be

"Now, Mr. Garnet, look here," said Pet;
"you're plagiarizing a story out of 'The Arabian Night's Entertainments,' You needn't think to palm it off on me as original, for I've ment. on here at all. I have heard she has driven side, so that a person caught at high tide on read it, as well as you, and know all about

either side found himself cut off from crossing the glass merchant, who fancied he would marry the vizier's daughter, and haveher kneeling at his feet, just as I am to do at your royal highness's, you know; and then he would very ungallantly give her a kick, and in so doing smashed his basket of glass all to pieces. You needn't think to take me in, you see; for my education has not been neglected more than

"Cease this fooling," said Garnet, angrily, and come with me. Resistance is useless You are completely in my power, and may as well come quietly.

"I won't then! Not a step will I budge, if I die for it!" said Pet, planting her feet fairly in the yielding sand. "I am not in the habit of walking out with gentlemen at this hour of the evening, I would have you to

Come one, come all, this rock shall fly From its firm base as soon as I.'''

And Pet, with an undaunted look, that would have made her fortune as a virtuous heroine in difficulties on the stage, looked un-flinchingly in his face, though her stout heart was throbbing as she each moment more and

more clearly saw her danger.
"Then I shall make you, by —!" And he swore a fearful oath, while a terrible frown settled on his face. "Since you will not walk, I shall bind you hand and foot and have you carried. Scream as loud as you like," he added, grimly; "there is no one far or near to

Holding her still with one hand, he began fumbling in his pockets, probably in search of something to bind her hands and feet. Pet cast a quick, sweeping glance around. Along the beach not a living soul was to be seen, and even the boats were now out of sight. They were close to the bowlder, around which the waves were now seething and dashing; and the tide was rapidly advancing to where they stood. Pet had her back to the bowlder, while he stood facing it, thus wedging her into a narrow prison, with the high, steep rocks on one side, and the dashing sea on the other, and preventing all hope of escaping by running along the beach.

His eye followed hers, and he said, with a

triumphant chuckle: "Caged, my bird of paradise! Snared, my mountain eaglet! Trapped, my forest fairy! Won, my dauntless lady-love! Ha! ha! ha! Your ever-triumphant star has set, at last, my beautiful, black-eyed bride."

Standing between her and all hope of esape, he ventured to relax his grasp for a monent, to aid in the search for something to bind her with. In one second, like a bolt from a bird, she darted forward, and with one wild, flying leap, impossible to anything but desperation, she sprung sheer into the foaming waters and vanished!

Vanished but for an instant. Pet could swim like a fish, or a cork, or a mermaid, or anything else you please, while Mr. Rozzel Garnet had as intense an aversion to cold water as a sufferer from hydrophobia. As quickly as she had disappeared did her black curls glitter above the white foam aga she dauntlessly struck out for the shore. white foam again, as

She had not far to swim, and she buffeted the waves like a sea-goddess; so, while Mr. Rozzel Garnet stood stunned, speechless, paralyzed, she had gained the shore, fled as fast as her dripping clothes would permit her along the beach, rushed up the path, then back again on the rocks up above, until she stood directly over the spot where the foiled villain still remained, as if rooted to the ground, unable to comprehend which end he was standing on, to

use a strong figure of speech.
"Hallo, Mr. Garnet! how do you find yourself?" shouted Pet, from above. "Oh my! how beautifully you did it! My stars! you ought to have a leather medal presented to you for catching girls-you do it so cley

He turned and looked up; and there, in the dusk, bright starlight, he saw Pet all dripping like a Naiad, and her black eyes almost flashing the stars themselves. "Curses light on her!" he hissed between his teeth.

"Thank you, Mr. Garnet! Curses, like chickens, come home to roost, you know.

Ah, you did it—didn't you?" said Pet, provokingly. "Don't you wish you had me, though? It's slippery work holding eels, and dangerous to play with exploding bombshells, and stinging occupation pulling nettles; but the coat-sleeves that try to hold me will find a harder and more dangerous job than any of them. Good-night, Mr. Rozzel Garnet, and pleasant dreams; and remember, when you next try to captivate me, that earth, air, fire, and water were never made to hold me." "Ah! you may triumph now—it is your turn," he said, looking up, livid with rage; "but mine will come yet! my time will

"Well, it's consoling to hear. I hope you'll have a good time when it does come. with a taunting laugh, Pet darted off, Little did either of them dream how closely that time was at hand.

(To be continued-commenced in No. 290.)

Pacific Pete, The Prince of the Revolver.

BY JOS. E. BADGER, JR., AUTHOR OF "OLD BULL'S-EYE," "YELLOW-STONE JACK," ETC.

CHAPTER XXIV. ALL FOR LOVE. In a chamber much smaller and far less

comfortably arranged than that in which Mark Austin returned to consciousness, Edna Brand passed the weary hours of her captivity -if captivity it could really be called. As yet she knew nothing of the real reasons for the treatment she had received, and, perhaps, 'twas just as well that she did not knowledge would scarce have reassured her. She had left the hotel in the cool of the afternoon for her ordinary walk. been rudely seized by three men, whose faces were all strange to her. They threatened to tie and gag her at the first attempt at resistance or of trying to summon help. In fear of worse, she submitted. The long, weary walk through the night; the brief struggle with the man whom she quickly recognized as Mark Austin; the continued journey, walking before the silent, bleeding figure, borne upon a rude these reflections now crowded upon Edna's mind, as she sat despondent upon the rude

A rustling noise at the entrance of the chamber suddenly aroused her, and with a little cry Edna sprung to her feet. Isabella stood before her, richly dressed, her face flushed, her eyes glittering with strong excite-

"Sit down," she said, in a clear, metallic

why you are here, a captive, as you choose to term it. Well, here I am, ready to redeem my pledge, if you still require it."
"If you will—will be so kind," faltered

Edna, shrinking back from that burning his bride-"

"Kind! You will find little kindness in me, girl, even when I am at my best. To-day Satan himself might envy me my mood. What I tell you will be the plain truth, unvarnished.
If it displeases you, blame yourself."
Edna drew back as Isabella sunk down upon

the pallet. Despite her natural courage, the maiden felt ill at ease in the presence of this passionate woman. Yet such was her anxiety

to learn all that she replied:
"I do claim your promise. Tell me why I
was brought here—what I have done to deserve this treatment."

"What have you done!—rather what have you not done! But there—I will not amuse you by getting hot. So—listen, now. First, you are here by your father's connivance."

Edna started, and was about to speak, but a a quick, impatient gesture bade her hold her

peace.
"When I am through, you can say what you please—until then, listen. I said that your father knew all about your abduction beforehand, and I speak no more than the truth. To do him justice, he made some objections, but I overruled them. What I say is his law. Why? Well, he is in my power-or that of my brother, which amounts to the same thing. It is just possible that he may never have told you the story—men are so modest! But I told you I was in the mood for plain speech this evening, so listen:

"There was a man named Gespel Dick, who made a fortune in the mines. He was robbed -almost murdered at the same time. Judge Lynch took hold of the affair, and only for me the thief would have suffered. I gave him shelter, though unwittingly, at the time; I learned all afterward. Gospel Dick was not killed, then, and soon recovered his strength, though never his mind. He had only one idea; that of finding his murderer, as he termed it. Whether he had any suspicions of the truth or no, he seemed to have struck the right trail, and the criminal grew uneasy. The devil still stood his friend. One day he found Gospel Dick fighting with a huge bear. He raised his rifle and fired, just as the crazy man drove his knife to the hilt in the brute's heart. Both fell dead—Gospel Dick with a bullet through his brain.

"The murderer fled, little thinking there had been an eye-witness to his crime. That night my brother made him his slave. The murderer was obliged to sign a complete confession of the deed—of the robbery as well as murder; he gave my brother the only clue he had to the buried treasure—a chart of the spot where he had hidden the gold stolen from and this event occurred so rarely that they Gospel Dick, when the hot and persistent could not afford to lose much time in regretsearch made him afraid of its being traced home to him. That man—the murderer of Gospel Dick-was Eli Brand, your father!"

Edna sunk to the floor with a groan of agony. She never doubted the woman's truth it chimed in too well with the confession of her father that night at the hotel; she knew, too, that Pacific Pete was none other than Vincente Barada, the man whom Brand said could hang him as a murderer.

"I warned you that my talk would not be soft as rose-leaves nor sweet as honey," laughed Isabella. "However, you know now why your worthy parent lent himself to further our plans-simply because brother threatened to hand him over to the miners-to Mark Austin, the son of the man called Gospel

The revengeful woman laughed gleefully as she saw how Edna writhed with agony at these startling words. To think that he—the man whom she loved with all her young heart -should be the son of her father's victim. Oh, it was horrible!

"I see you are interested," added Isabella, finding an almost fiendish satisfaction in tormenting her victim. "That is well; I have something more to tell you. Doubtless you would like to learn why I—for in this matter brother has acted only as my agent-why I have taken so much trouble to bring you here. I am in a communicative mood this evening

"But first, let me tell you what story wa spread about concerning your disappearance. You were said to have been abducted by three men; so far the truth answered. Those three men were-Mark Austin, his partner Pike, and an old man-or a young one in disguise, as I strongly suspect—who calls himself Old Business. The alarm was given, the report spread, and Judge Lynch paid their cabin a Never mind what passed there—enough that suspicion will never touch the right party.

""What were my reasons? Well, I did not intend telling you the whole truth, but there's a devil in me to-night, and you will never have the chance to triumph over me. If I have failed, so will have you.

"You fell in love with Mark Austin-bah! why blush? He is not here to go into eestacies over your mock-modesty. You fell in love with him, and—I'll be frank—he was just as foolish as you. Curses on the day that first he saw you! Only for that I might have been

happy—oh! so happy!"
Isabella now gave evidence of another phase in her wild, impulsive nature. From being hoarse and harsh with rage, her voice grew soft and broken, and bowing her head she wept bitterly. Only for a few moments. Then, proudly raising her head, she tossed back the disheveled hair, dashed the pearly drops from her flushed cheeks, and laughed bitterly in scorn at her own weakness.

"Bah! I was actually growing sentimental -I! But, after all, 'tis as well. That little outburst will save words. You know now that I fell in love with this wonderful miner as well as yourself. You remember last Sabbath? Doubtless you marked it with a white stone in your calendar. Well, that same even ing he spent with me, in my room. Ha! that touched you! 'Tis true, though. Could you only have seen us at one moment—when I laid in his arms, heart to heart, his lips glued to mine—would your dreams have been quite so pleasant? I think not.

And yet-why should I lie to you? No; I will play fair, since you can never take advantage of my confession. Twas only for a moment that he yielded. Then, I suppose he thought of you. He grew cold and distant. I—like a fool—had lost my head, or all might have been different. I laid myself at his feet. I did not ask so much—only his love, which I could return two thousand fold. I suppose the idea shocked his Puritanic scruples; at any

"I have sent for a particular friend of yours—one who adores the very ground your pretty foot touches. He will come here tomorrow. Thirty hours from this, you will be

Edna interrupted her with a sharp cry. Imperiously waying her hand, Isabella com-manded silence. Weak, heart-broken, Edna

I mean to be generous. It will be a genuine bridal. Though the gentle bridegroom is a Catholic and you a Protestant, both parties can be satisfied, for we have a priest and a Methodist minister in our band; each of them has consented to perform the ceremony, Twill be a pity if, between them, they can not marry you so firmly that all further thought of Mark Austin will be a sin. Then—I have given you enough to think about, for once. Now, I must leave you, to visit Mark. Don't you envy me?" and the woman arose with a

"Wait—I forgot to mention the name of the happy man who is to call you wife. And you would let me go without one question? What a shy little bird it is! Well—listen. The much-to-be-envied man is-Juan Ca-

brera."

"Never!" cried Edna, with a sudden return of her natural spirit. "I'll die first!"

"I believe you would, jnst to spite me; but that is impossible. You will be watched every moment, from this. Remember—to-morrow night!" and with a loud laugh, Isabella left, the chamber. left the chamber.

CHAPTER XXV.

BOON COMPANIONS ALL.
"GENTLEMEN—comrades," cried Marco of the Sear, in a clear, ringing voice, as he sprung to his feet, a battered tin cup in his hand. "I'll give you a sentiment—up, all of you and drink uncovered. The man who refuses it, calls me his enemy. Drink—to the truest comrade, the boldest heart, the kindest friend and leader, the most dangerous enemy—drink to the prince of free riders, JOAQUIN MURIETA!"

The toast was drunk in silence, with bared heads, and—in more than one case—moistened eyes. The true history of Joaquin Murieta will never be written. To most ears the name means only a ferocious, bloodthirsty outlaw. The terrible wrongs he suffered, and which drove him to the bad; his brother and brother-in-law murdered; himself cruelly flogged; his young wife outraged and murdered —Joaquin robbed and left for dead; all this before he committed a single crime. he waded knee deep in blood, had he no justification? At heart his comrades believed he had. To them he was a demi-god.

But this momentary emotion soon passed y. The outlaws were in for a night's spree, ting the dead and gone. A deputation, headed by Wister, had waited upon Pacific Pete, and requested permission to celebrate the admis-sion of so skillful a comrade as Marco of the Scar, with an old-fashioned drinking bout. The chief consented, after detailing men to act as outside guards.

Gathered in the large chamber, the men began their revels, after Marco of the Scar gave his toast. 'Twas a free and easy scene. No tables, no chairs; a number of robes and skins were flung upon the floor. Upon these the two score men were stretched. A ten-gallon keg of whisky stood in the center. Upon this Wister sat, as master of the revels. He it was who turned the faucet and filled the tin, pewter, or horn cups as often as he deemed

The party, considering its rough elements. was wonderfully quiet and decorous. Wister had cautioned them that the chief was in an ill-humor, and would stand little distur-

Marco of the Scar was soon the life of the party. He proved himself as brilliant in con-versation and repartee as skillful with the couch of skins. Holding his breath, he glided Brand saw nothing of this. In a dull, monversation and repartee as skillful with the knife and pistol. Yarn after yarn did he reel off until he had the field pretty much to himself, the rest contenting themselves with lis tening, and an occasional comment now and

"Gentlemen, this is an anniversary," said Marco; "come; drink to the past!" The toast was duly honored, then Marco re

"Yes-an anniversary, and I will tell you of what. If the story be a dry one, all the better, since we are here for drinking. If it prove too tiresome, check me.

"I am a Spaniard by birth and family, though raised in New Orleans. My life had nothing out of the common in it until I was twenty. Then I fell in love—as the phrase with and married a bewitching little morsel from the French quarter. I was green enough, then; I only saw that she had a soft, lustrous eye, ripe red lips, and a figure that was a complete edition of love itself; so I married her, after two days' acquaintance. But if I required no more, my parents did. Of 'blue blood' themselves, they could have forgiven any other sin-but this, never. Actually Nina could not swear that she had ever

had a father. "The old story—angry father—disinherited son; a parting curse by way of blessing, and then we each went our way, for I would not give up my little one. Still I felt the blow bitterly, for, being an only son, I had been petted and made much of, all my life. So, to drown memory, I spent the night at the ta-bles. When day dawned, I found myself the winner of nearly twenty thousand dollars. I tossed it all into Nina's lap. No, she did not run away with it; possibly she had not

yet tired of love's young dream. "That night's success decided me. I set up a gambling-house. Luck favored me; I made gold by thousands; in six months I was the richest man in New Orleans.

"The cards can not run forever in one channel—a change must come, sooner or later. Mine came in this wise. A stranger-one of such remarkable appearance that, interested, I sought to discover who he could be, but in vain; this stranger visited my table regularly every night, remaining just an hour, then disappearing, generally the winner, for he betted with good judgment and steady nerve.

"One morning I went home, but found it cold and deserted. A little note from Nina told me all. She was weary playing the role of dutiful wife; she had eloped with her 'first

"That little scrap of paper changed me wonderfully, gentlemen. I was no longer the soft, confiding fool. I vowed vengeance upon them both; you shall see how well I kept my

tone, widely different from her usual soft, almost languid utterance.

"I promised to visit you again to tell you
for the next move.

"I promised to visit you again to tell you
for the next move.

"I promised to visit you again to tell you
for the next move.

"I promised to visit you again to tell you
for the next move.

"I promised to visit you again to tell you
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"I promised to visit you again to tell you
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"I promised to visit you again to tell you
for the next move.

"I promised to visit you again to tell you
for the next move. ica. At last I run the game to earth, near Jalapa, in Mexico. And, there, for the first time, I learned who my man really was: Tiburcio Vasquez-King of the Jarochos, he

"Time, hard drinking, and brooding over see I have not forgotten with whom I am the insult cast upon me, had wrought a great change in my personal appearance. This, with this instant, or by the devil, our master, I'll a careful disguise, insured me against detection. I soon made the acquaintance of one of the band, and through him asked to be admitted into the company. I offered-just as I did here to-day—to cope with any or all of trembling, though their best men, at their own game. I was dered in his small eyes. given the chance. I defeated every man who was pitted against me. I was elected a member, unanimously, though the chief seemed to have his doubts—just as our noble captain acted this afternoon—he could give no reasons for crossing the will of his men, and so I became 'one of them.' Again, like now, we all gathered together for a carouse; but here the

"At midnight I was the only one left sober among the men. I stole away, and soon found the quarters of the chief-and Nina. I seized and bound him. Nina, recognizing me, lay like one dead with fear, never making a sound. I bound her, as well. Then I told them all: how I had followed them ever since that black day, watching and waiting for the moment to strike. It had come at last

"I carried them outside the house. I bound them to the two pillars in front. They shrieked aloud, but no one came to their assistance The men were drunk-drugged in a sleep that

would last for hours
"Well—I applied the torch. Dry as tinder,
the little building was in a furious blaze the
next moment. Seated before them, I smoked
my cigar. I recalled the past. Reminded
them of the honor they had stolen from me when I was busy making a fortune for her. Well-I never relented for one moment,

thirteen years ago. Gentlemen, again-to the

The ball was kept rolling. One by one the much. outlaws narrated their experience; in all, a catalogue of sins that would have shamed the Newgate Calendar. The liquor flowed freely, and the men were fast becoming uproarious, when the outlaw chief appeared and sternly ordered them to give over drinking.

"You are making noise enough to wake the dead. Then—there will be need of cool heads and steady hands soon—perhaps to-morrow Remember-I don't speak twice," and he assed on to inspect the sentinels in person. Marco of the Scar had attached himself to

Collar-and-elbow; it seemed as though the tough struggle they had had inspired respect, if not admiration. At any rate, in their cups hey swore eternal friendship.

The Irishman insisted upon the new recruit's choosing his couch, and together they reeled toward it, in a dark corner. Once there, after cautioning his comrade, Marco produced a large leather flask of liquor. The bait was tempting—doubly so, since 'twas forbidden, and the comrades were soon busily engaged devouring its contents; at least Collar-and-el-It seemed as though Marco was bent on still further increasing the resemblance etween his story and the present.

Collar-and-elbow soon succumbed; a heavy snore told that he was asleep. Marco cau-tiously gazed around. All was still, save for sundry heavy breathings. The lights burned dim. Everything seemed propitious.

Feeling of his weapons, he noiselessly crawled away in the darkness. He had evidently made good use of his eyes that night, for he seemed never at a loss. Entering one of the dark passages, he glided along it, a bared knife in his hand, the other slipping along the uneven stone wall.

Presently a faint light glimmered before him. Stealthily, noiselessly as an Indian upon the war-crail, he crept along, then paused at the entrance of the small chamber. A faint Barada followed his finger with his eyes—a sound of breathing came to his ears. He crept look of unutterable horror deepening on them to her side. One arm covered her face. She moved restlessly, and the hand dropped. Her brow was moist, a look of pain upon her pale

'Father-have mercy-spare me!' Quick as thought Marco leaped back, into the darkness, believing himself discovered. But Edna had only spoken from out a troubled

He retraced his steps, and entered another passage. It also conducted him to a chamber, though unlighted. He listened. All was still. He entered. No sound of breathing: the chamber was vacant. Ha! A faint sound came to his ears, just as he was retreat-He listened: again that sound, like a half-stifled groan.

He followed the sound, cautiously. He topped as his hand touched a silken curtain. It hung before an opening, as he quickly discovered. Pushing it aside, still all was dark. The groaning, sighing sound came still plainer. He hesitated; a clammy dew moistened his But then, as if drawn on by some invisible hand, he crawled on.

The strange sound no longer guided him. le listened. All was still. Yet he could not retreat. He seemed fascinated—by what, he could not have told. He crawled on.

A faint sound startled him; but it came from his rear. He glanced back, A faint light shone through the silken drapery. Some one had entered the outer chamber.

Believing himself caught, he sprung to his feet, and then-felt himself falling-down-

CHAPTER XXVI. THE WAGES OF SIN.
"YES, I sent for you. Sit down, and fill your glass."

The speaker was Pacific Pete, or, as he may henceforth be termed, Vincente Barada. He addressed Eli Brand, who stood before him, uncovered, sullen respect, not unmixed with fear, written plainly upon his dark counte-

"Drink-success to all our plans! And now your attention. Of course you know that I did not request your company through pure love; you wouldn't believe me were I to swear We know each other too well to attempt wearing the mask while alone."

"What is it you want of me," sullenly mut-

"Good! you are in the humor I like bestshort andsweet. There will be less difficulty in our coming to terms. But first—you see this

bit of paper?" While speaking the outlaw chief produced a small note-book, and from it extracted a worn and discolored slip of paper, bearing several lines of writing, beneath a rude diagram.

touched his temple. Again laughing softly,

see what your brains are made of!" The abrupt change, the devilish glitter in

Barada's eyes, awed Brand into submission, and he sunk back into his chair, pale and trembling, though the devil-fire still smol-

"You must be mad, man, to attempt such a again. You understand?"

"What do you want me to do?" sullenly muttered Brand,

"A difficult job; and yet, if you succeed, 'twill be the best rewarded act of your life. But wait. That there may be no chance of a mistake, let's take a retrospective glance. Ah! if black looks would only kill—but they won't, you know. So, take my advice. Smooth down your brow, and take matters philosophically. You'll live the longer for it," and Barada thoughtfully refilled his glass.

"But, as I was saying: the past. You remember the poor devil called Gospel Dick? Ah, I see you do. Good! Well, I have made a discovery concerning him. His name was John R. Austin—the R standing for Richard, whence his being nicknamed Dick. Mark Austin was his son. He had a brother, too—a roving, reckless, rolling stone. Though probably neither is aware of the other's purpose, both brother and son are here trying to sift the mystery of Austin's disappearance. Whether either of them have a suspicion of the "In half an hour, all was over. That was actual truth, I don't know. But if they do strike the right trail, I wouldn't give much for your life. Ah, that touches you; I thought as

"Now, listen. This is what I am trying to get at. I hold here the confession of the—the man who murdered Gospel Dick; also, the only clue to the spot where the stolen gold was buried. Little wonder that you could not find the treasure; for I removed it to a safe spot. Easy-don't be a fool, man! I've got the drop on you this time; don't tempt me too far.

"This brother, if I mistake not, is none other than the man you know as Old Business. You can easily sum up your chances were I to pass this confession over to him. Whether I do or not, depends wholly upon you. I, too, have had dealings with this man; never mind what they were; the simple fact that I want him put out of the way is enough. Now you know the price of these bits of papers. You dispose of him, and you are a free man once more. Fail, and you are lost—doubly lost."
"You are sure of this man?" asked Brand,

eagerly, his eyes dilating, a strange expression upon his weather-beaten features. "He is the that man's brother?"

"Not sure-but confident. I don't think I can be mistaken," and—strange sight!—Pacific Pete trembled all over, his lips blanched as he cast a nervous glance behind him, as though dreading some vision of the past.

Brand's eyes glittered anew as he noted this; but his voice was even and steady as he added:

"You may think it strange, but now that I know the worst I am much easier in my mind. Come—the day for reserve between us is past. I'll tell you why I was so willing to join you in your plans against this man. You have always supposed Edna to be my own daughter, have you not? But she is not."

Brand was slowly tracing figures in the few drops of liquor that had been spilled upon the table. Mechanically he slowly traced out a otonous tone he spoke on.

"No, she is no relation to me. Years ago I had a bosom friend; I loved him better than life, though he treated me more as a servant than a comrade. I know now that he had many secrets from me, while I believed he was as open and free to me as I was to him. night he told me a story-a tale of reckless crime and treachery. Never mind the details; 'twould not interest you. Enough that the avenger was upon his trail. He gave me a bit of paper, and made me swear to carry his child away and use her as my own, in case

anything should happen to him. "He was still talking, when the door opened and a tall man sprung upon him. He gasped a name, then died. It all passed so quiet that I could not interfere. The murderer then turned upon me. I sprung through the window and fled. There was something in that handsome, yet satanic face, that unmanned me "I hastened to his house and bore away the child. I-but you are ill?" he hastily added, for the first time noticing the strange demeanor

of his captain. "No, no; go on," hoarsely whispered the

outlaw chief. "That's all. I'm a fool for babbling of my private affairs," and the old dogged look came back to Brand's face. "I only meant to tell you why I feared this old man. I believed him to be this man—he who murdered my friend. But you have set me at ease. I will kill him, at your price. But, to prove your sincerity, give me at least one of those papers. "You may have this," and Barada was once more his usual self, as he tossed the rude dia gram over to Brand. "The confession shall be yours when you bring me plain proof that

the man is dead. Now go."
"Give me the order to pass the guards. I feel the need of fresh air. And then I am anxious to get to work."

"I'll go to the entrance with you. Come." Brand passed out of the cavern, and glided away in the night. The stars told him that he had several hours before day—enough for his work. When once out of sight of the cavern he halted in a deep hollow, and kindled a tiny fire. By its light he carefully examined the diagram, his eyes aglow with cupidity.

Then a glad cry broke from his lips. had mastered the contents—had succeeded in comprehending the diagram. A strange thrill agitated his frame as he realized that at last the long-lost treasure was his; the blood-stained gold-the wages for which he had committed

Extinguishing the fire, Brand clambered out of the hollow and hastened away from the spot. He was all of a tremble—a strange fire seemed working in his veins. With this man the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he terrible score of crime; yet he never regretted having done so—only bewailed the loss of his idolized gold.

"Twill be mine all mine now!" he muttered, as he hastened along the rough trail. "All mine—a fortune—a mass of the darling, precious gold; enough to enable me to end my "No, no, dear friend-have patience. You days, far away from here, honored, respected. Shall I—and yet—"
His pace slackened; his thoughts were busy.

Until now he had resolved to secure his treasure, then to flee far away, severing all connection with the past. But now—he remembered Edna, the fair girl who had ever proved a true, a dutiful daughter to him. Besides gold, she alone had power to touch his heart. It seemed trick with me," sneered Barada. "Only that hard to desert her now, when she was in such trick with me," sneered Barada. "Only that I have need of you—work for you to do—that act would have been your death. As it was, I could scarcely hold my hand. If you are not anxious to commit suicide, never tempt me hard to desert ner now, when she was in such sore need of a friendly support. And then he recalled each word that had dropped from the lips of Old Business in the shanty at Dick's anxious to commit suicide, never tempt me scarce an hour, but what he had dreamed of or pictured to himself that wonderfully rich pocket, until it seemed to belong by rights to himself. Should he flee, and forever abandon all hopes of possessing it?

"No, I'll kill him and have it all to myself!" he cried, in a hoarse, unnatural voice, unconscious that he spoke aloud. "The others are dead—all but Lynch. I can fool him—I will_"

A slight noise behind him checked the speech, and recalled Brand to a sense of his folly. In an instant he was his usual self wary and circumspect.

He listened intently. All was still, save for the usual sounds of the night. Then he pro-ceeded, but with more caution than heretofore. ceeded, but with more caution than heretofore. The gray light was spreading in the east, heralding the coming dawn, when Brand paused in a little valley. Through it ran a small creek, but which, during the rainy season, almost filled the valley. Yet there was a landmark that couldn't be mistaken; a large, black howlder near the center of the large, black bowlder near the center of the valley. Below this he knelt and plied his bowie knife with almost insane fury, flinging

the dirt behind him in constant spurts And then! A harsh, inarticulate cry broke from his lips as the blade touched something hard. He tore it from its resting-place—a

nard. He tore it from its resting-place—a nugget of pure gold! Another and another, until he was surrounded by a ring of the dull, yellow metal—a ransom for a king.

Down still deeper he dug, and another cry parted his lips as he came upon a layer of long skin bags, heavy, because full of gold dust. The outlaw chief had not deceived him, then. This was indeed the blood striped and then. This was, indeed, the blood-stained gold

the lost treasure of Gospel Dick.
"Rich—rich! I can roll in gold now!"
The speech ended with a yell of terror. heavy hand rested upon Eli Brand's shoulder, ificant click sounded in his ear (To be continued—commenced in No. 296.)

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"You can easily guess, now, my reasons for abducting you, and accusing him. I wanted to the control of the first love of him, day after day, and accusing him. I wanted to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he had sacrificed prospects brighter than fall to the lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of gold was a second nature. To it he lust of

OF MONTHS AND DAYS.

BY JOE JOT, JR.

To be a well-conducted son
You must be born on Sunday.
My Scotch friend says to be a man
Your birthday must be Monday.

In writing satires I am sure
That Satireday is my day;
And when there's any fish to fry,
Good Catholics take Friday.

But, maiden, if you wish to dash Your lover's hopes, remember The best of all months to say no, Is certainly November.

When your old suit is well outworn, And badly needs a new one, Then hurry to the clothing-store All in the month of Jewin'.

If to the wars I had to go
And fight (the bare thought smothers!)
Then I'd take March and some one else
Might take the eleven others.

The best time in the year to tell A story and be merry, I'm very much inclined to think Would be in February.

If I were in for making love, And glances soft to bandy,
The best month I'd select would be
The first month that was handy.

One Mad Act.

A STORY OF CHRISTMAS-TIME.

BY JENNIE DAVIS RURTON

CHRISTMAS, but as different from our ideas of Christmas-time as the antipodes. A traveler had left Arica three days before,

and was pushing on with a feverish restless-ness through the mountain regions, sometimes following fragments of those grand old roads, lasting relics of the glorious days of the Incas, sometimes losing himself, as it seemed, in the very heart of the tropical forest. Everything there was on a magnificent scale. Giant palms reared their feathery heads high above the neighboring groves; trees gorgeous with flowers from top to bottom were stunted by compari-son, and yet stood a hundred and fifty feet in the air; abrupt chasms yawned beneath until distance was lost in the eternal darkness of their unfathomable depths; and above, huge precipices rose one above another, like gigantic steps leading straight up into the very vault of heaven itself. Amid all the grandeurs of the lower third of the mightiest mountain range in the world, the tops of whose sierras are lost amid eternal snows, where nature has put on the garb of the stupendous and sublime, this man had come, hoping to escape from that selfconsciousness whose raging passions made his

He had an Indian guide and a pack-mule for his train, but he had left both at the cabin where he had passed the night, and gone tramping quite alone up the steep bridle-path, which led through almost impenetrable wilds.

It was Christmas-day, and all over the Christian world a Te Deum was being sung, 'Peace upon earth and good will among men. was being preached from thousands of pulpits and instilled into millions of hearts.

It was a day full of happy, hopeful meaning, suggestive in numberless homes of bright hearthstones and the one family reunion of the year, of good cheer—the big brown turkey laid out in state, flanked by speckled pudding and great crystal flagons of cider, which froths and sparkles like champagne—of light hearts and merry faces, of banks of pine and scarlet berries, of the tall Christmas-tree and the children's carnival.

It was to escape recollections of these had sent Randolph Braxton an aimless wanderer past rose before him, blotting out tropical scenery and brilliant sunshine, and overwhelming his inner being with the blackness of desolation and despair.

He stood upon a plateau, which was scarcely more than a ledge, where bright emerald moss was piled a yard thick, on which the footsteps of an army would not have made a sound. He held his clasped hands toward heaven, and lifted his face, dark with sudden fury, and though he uttered no word it was as if he called down heaven's direct wrath upon his adversary.

And then, as he turned to retrace his steps through the vast solitudes, he found himself

face to face with another man. A man so like himself that but for the

brooding shadow on Randolph Braxton's face, the one might have been taken for the The eyes of the two met, the newcomer half-recoiled with a look of horror, then recovered himself and took a step forward, holding out his hand. "Dolph, old fellow!"

"Keep back," cried Randolph Braxton, hoarsely. "What brought you here? Satan must have sent you to tempt me, but the more fool you to have ever come! You might have known that you and I could not meet and both No simple chance has brought us face to face here. Why have you followed me?"

"To be reconciled to you, brother."
"Brother!" repeated the other, with a bitter "For one year I have owned no bro ther. You, traitor and dastard, I hate and abhor. My life has but one impulse left-to take revenge. Oh, cower and turn pale, fool! you have tempted your own fate."

'Randolph, are you mad? Listen to me." "I listened to you once, to my lasting grief and desolation; your false tongue shall have no chance with me again. Go down upon your knees and ask heaven to receive your soul, if such a vain prayer will give you any comfort

Dolph, Dolph! You would not murder me

Would I not? It is no better than you deserve, but my life is not so desirable that I fear to risk it in giving you a chance for yours. Are you armed? Take this. We will take three paces from this spot, turn and fire when I give the word. Pick up that pistol and do as I say. I swear I will shoot you in your tracks like the dog you are if you refuse, He had flung the weapon at the other's feet,

and he, hesitating, could do no less than obey that last, imperious command. Heaven bear witness that you force me to

this," he cried, in great agitation. The only answer which his brother vouchsafed was to motion him to his place. A moment later two pistol shots rung sharply out upon the air, and then Randolph Braxton stood upon the ledge alone. The other had thrown up his hands and staggered back, with a single

will your friends say to receiving me? Oh, I

"Afraid!" laughed Aglae Braxton, merrily. "My dear, I am the only daughter of the house, and you are my guest. When that is said, enough is said. On that recommenda-tion, my dear, stately old papa will welcome you cordially, mamma will take you to her arms, and nobody will ask any questions. Here we are, and welcome to Braxtonia."

Braxtonia itself was a Virginian estate; the house long and low, by no means a stately or imposing structure, but roomy and comfortable, and overflowing with holiday guests.

"We have worn out their patience by being the latest arrival, I suppose, and nobody is on the lookout for us," said Aglae, springing down from the carriage, and leading the way into the covered porch. "Oh, here is a sign of life at last—one of our boys, Justina. Neal, how dare you! Put me down instantly,

A tall young fellow coming out of the dim hall had caught her up as he would have done a child

"How do, sis? It is you at last. We were about giving you up as one among the missing, and the governor was seriously reflecting whether he should advertise 'Lost, strayed or stolen, a little brown girl, with a red dress and a horrible temper. Marked with seven freckles on her nose, with a catty propensity for scratching, and a happy knack of pulling hair.' I inclined to the belief that you had deluded some unfortunate youth into an elopement, but mamma—bless her credulous heart!—stuck to it stoutly that your affection for French and geometry would not permit you to tear yourself away from the scene of your enticing studies, though, like the last rose of summer, you bloomed there alone. Oh, if you insist in that dignified tone, down you go, of course.

I beg your friend's pardon!"
"Miss Talcott, Neal. Never mind my wild brother, Justina. His head isn't quite level, but his heart is in the right place, as you will discover," and Aglae flashed a mischievous glance at Neal, who paid his compliments in some confusion as Miss Talcott threw back her vail, and lifted to his sight the loveliest face he had ever seen. Ordinarily, he had a hearty contempt for his sister's school-girl friends, and had given his boisterous greeting without a thought for the slight, small figure standing in the background; but he reddened consciously as he made his bow to her, and wished he had repressed his boyish exuberance for once.

"And that was your brother, Aglae?" said Justina, as she sat in the apartment which distina, as see sat in the apartment which the two girls were to share jointly, sometime later of that day. "Do you know, I had formed an idea, from your manner of speaking of 'our boys,' that they were little fellows in jackets, considerably younger than yourself? An odd mistake, of no moment, of course, but still I wish I had known.'

"You would have refused to come home with me, and I had set my heart on that. And I really had no intention to deceive at first. We are always teasing each other here, and I make it a matter of duty to patronize the boys, just as they persist in treating me like an overgrown baby, instead of a mature young lady of eighteen, who will graduate with honors at the close of the term. It was only after you refused an invitation from Virginia Reis, when she held out as an inducement the prospect of numberless flirtations, that I discovered your error, and conceived the luminous idea of keeping you still in the dark. Now. don't look so woe-begone, please, or I will never have the courage to complete my con-fession! It is all your fault if I have conde-scended to 'ways that are dark and tricks that are' not vain! You are such a shy, timid little thing, afraid of your own shadow I verily believe. You seemed so averse to meeting strangers that I spoke of our expected guests as a 'few friends,' which was the truth, though not all the truth. It is, that the house among the Andes; but memory is as remorseless as fate, and the picture of the Christmas will have an animated time for the next month, or this Christmas at Braxtonia will differ very much from all preceding it. Now, you may scold if you like, but it is too late to elp yourself or disappoint me."

Miss Talcott did not avail herself of the per

mission given, but there was a troubled look upon her face which gave Algae a thrill of

"What an odd girl you are, Justina!" she broke out presently. "A misanthrope and a regular Britomarte at your age, what will you be by and by? I wonder what any man ever did to you to make you hate the whole race of

Justina's gray eyes dilated with an expresion which looked like sudden terror, and she shivered in the mellow warmth of the room. "I begin to realize that I was chilled through with our ride," she said. "What

makes you think that I do hate men, Aglae?" "Oh, everything in general and nothing in particular. Mainly, I suppose, that you never have a word on the subject of lovers, like all the rest of us, and even that surly old Graybeard of a German professor sets you all atremble if he comes on you suddenly. You poor little timid dove! how are you ever going to fight out the battle of life alone, I should like to know? You will have to fall in with

my plan, if only in obedience to the law of

Your plan?" questioned Justina "Such retiring innocence would never suspect I had a plan if I didn't tell her outright.

self-preservation."

Well, never mind; wait until you see Dolph! He is the one perfect idol for my adoration, is my brother Dolph. Neal is a rattlepate, but Dolph is an angel! There is an exception to every rule, and you have my free permission o hate all created men if you only make him the exception."

"Aglae!" aghast. "Oh, Aglae, I am sorry, sorry that I ever came. Whatever comes of it, don't blame me."

"Silly child! There can nothing come of it except what we would all wish, and if not that there will be no harm done, rest assured.

Come in!" There was a tap at the door, and at her command a tall, gaunt old negro woman made her appearance.

"Oh, you are Samantha, I suppose," said Aglae, after a momentary stare. You see, Justiza, my own little maid of old has married and left us since the last vacation, but I don't feel the loss so much since a sojourn at Madame Joliet's has drilled me into waiting upon myself. You may unpack our trunks Samantha. Let me see; what shall I wear to-

"De big trunk, honey?" asked the woman advancing to take the key. "Oh, massiful

Aglae looked at her wonderingly. She was staring with eyes and mouth open, as if in un-believing astonishment, at the still little figure groan had fallen—fallen headlong down the abyss. What was the story in the lives of those two which led to that tragical end. It crouched in an easy chair before the hearth, leaving it as emotionless and almost as perfect | facing each other. Suddenly she brought her | tinued all night.

"And that is your home, Aglae. What as if cut from Carara stone. There was an hand from amid the folds of her silken dress, instant of intense silence, then the black and carried something to her mouth; then woman tottered forward and fell upon her

> "Miss Crecy! Bress de dear Lord, how you come here, chile? Now de good Lord let ole Say lay down and die, comfo't'ble and contentious, sence she see dat sweet face onct more. Nebber tought to do it, nebber! Miss Crecy, honey! Hain't ye got jes' one werd for de ole 'oman what nussed ye and lubs ye like yer wor her own?"

> Justina moved, and looked with her steady fixed gaze into the pleading dusky face before

> "What does the woman mean?" she asked. I suppose, Aglae, the poor thing takes me for some former mistress of her own. Do get up, there's a good creature."

The woman's mouth opened, but a flash in the eyes of the girl stopped her words; a stupid blank crossed her countenance, then she got upon her feet again, slowly.

"Axes yer pardon, young miss," she said.
Dat's it, t'ought you wor 'nudder pusson. Dunno what put it in dis yer foolish ole noddle to make sich a mistake.'

know Justina?" asked Aglae.
"Sartin sure. Nebber seed she afore—neb ber!" reiterated Samantha, shutting her mouth grimly over the words and going silently about her task. And yet Aglae could not get over the thought that there had been a mutual re-cognition, but she was not of a suspicious nature, and so let the matter drop out of her

mind as a thing of no consequence.

For a day or two Miss Talcott mingled among the guests at Braxtonia very shyly; she seemed to shrink from notice, was quiet and constrained; and then gradually her ti-midity gave way to a natural, captivating grace, she was metamorphosed imperceptibly into an arch, sparkling, fascinating little beauty, whose glances and smiles set inflam-mable masculine hearts afire.

"You have put temptation before me," she said to her friend, "and I am not strong enough to withstand it. I did so love society once, and this seems like a glimpse of Paradise." The speech, merrily begun, ended in a

"Once," repeated Aglae. "What a Methuselah we have grown all of a sudden! How long ago, if I may venture to ask, did Miss Justina Talcott, not yet emancipated from boarding-school thraldom, revel in the joys of

"All my life. Did you not know I was raised in society? But that was before I lost papa, and I do not often speak of it." A certain reserve in her tone forbade further ques-tioning, and Aglae remembered then that Miss Talcott had worn mourning when she entered Madame Joliet's establishment one year

While this conversation was in progress in the friends' apartment, another was being held below stairs, of which Miss Talcott was the interested subject.

"Dolph, old fellow!" Neal Braxton laid his hand upon his brother's shoulder, as they chanced to meet quite alone in the smoking-room. "Are we both done for in the same

way?"
'I fail to understand you, Neal." "Oh, yes; we generally fail to understand where we haven't the desire to do so. But believe me, it will be better for us to speak plainly and act fairly now. There has never been a harsh thought between us yet, Dolph; let's make a compact here and now that there never shall be. I am dead in love with the never shall be. I am dead in love with the little Talcott, so are you. Shall it be a fair field and no favor, each for himself and neither to speak until Christmas-day, and then no hard feelings over the result, old boy?

yet unfathomed and unsuspected even by himself. His brother's words grated upon his su-per-sensitive ear. "Dead in love," and his passion was an adoration too sacred to be breathed in idle words.

Christmas-day! A royal Christmas, clothed in ermins, adorned with gems that flashed and sparkled with iridescent rays—in other words, fresh snowfall, and icicles glittering under the sun. Just as evening fell, Dolph found his opportunity, and in a burst of impassion quence such as had never passed his lips before his story was told.

"You love me?" repeated Justina, a sudden catch in her breath, sudden terror in her eyes. Oh, forgive me! I was warned of this, but would not accept the warning. I blame myself more than you can blame me, but I never thought this could come so soon."

"That is no answer. I love you: I ask if you love me. It seems presumptuous to say it, but I believe that you do. Look me in the eyes and tell me it is not so, and I will never trouble you again with my unhappy passion. But if I am blest with your love as have dared to hope, all earth shall not keep us asunder. Look at me, Justina, and tell me

But she did not look; her beautiful face was all pallid and drawn as if with some terrible inward struggle. "Oh, if I dared!" she breathed to herself, but love's hearing is sharp, and he caught the words.

"What is to prevent, Justina?" "The slight impediment of another husband, young sir. It is a very interesting tableau, and I regret the necessity of spoiling it by warning you that I do not permit any man to use that manner and tone toward my wife.

Both started. The door had opened silently, and upon the threshold stood a strange figure, a tall old man with iron-gray hair and beard and eyes like "pent-up fires," gleaming be-neath shaggy brows, a man harsh alike in mien and feature, who remained for a moment gazing upon them with a kind of savage triumph, which made the girl he had claimed as his wife shiver and cower in deadly fear. hind this apparition came Neal, and pushing his way past he reached his brother.

"It was a narrow escape for us," said Neal, his voice thrilling with indignation. wood gave me the clue. If you want to know more of the enchantress who has been turning all your heads, write there,' said he, giving me an address. 'I advise you to do it before the mischief she makes is irretrievable. I am not among her victims, but I don't care to see my friends victimized, though I'm not the sort to hunt any woman down.' Well. I did write, though I wouldn't admit to myself that I suspected her, and to-day without knowing him I saw that man at church watching her with a look which made me long to knock him down. Afterward I followed him, meaning to accomplish my desire, heard his story, and brought him here. She is a vile adventuress with a husband living—that man!"

"That man" and the "adventuress" were

looked at him, her eyes full of a desperate

"You will never torture me again," she said. "Dolph!" face and voice softening as she turned to him. "Bless you for the love which would have blest me, had not an inevitable barrier been between us. I dare to tell you this, now that I have cheated him. I have taken poison, which I have carried about me for two years, in preparation for this mo

What followed was always like some vague horrible dream in Randolph Braxton's mem-ory; a confusion of frightful invectives and an outpour of abuse in that strange voice; a vision of Justina falling back in her chair, with a ghastly, death-stricken face, and of poor

old Samantha wailing over her.
"My own chile! My own chile! Gone forebber and forebber, and dat ole vilyun killed her sure as he broke her heart long go—'deed did he! Oh, de poor, bressed lamb! Tried in sufferin', 'deed was she, de whitest, purest angel dat ebber trod dis yerth."

And amid her sobs and tears and writhings,

"Then you are really sure that you do not the old servant poured out a tale which turn ed the blood of her hearers cold; of a child-wite, bought with a price from a father who whatever his faults, had been ever indulgent to her, and treated by her husband after the first glamor of the ill-made match was over, with a brutality which might have driven her mad, which did drive her to flight at last, but not until she had borne for years with uncomplaining meekness, and was in fear of her very life. With that tale ringing in his ears, Ran-dolph Braxton broke from them all, well-nigh mad with horror, and rushed out into the darkness of the night; but not before Neal had laid a restraining hand upon him, and essayed to utter words. Randolph turned.

"Curse you!" he cried, fiercely. "But for your meddling she would have told me all, and I would have saved her from him. are saying in there that it was he killed her, but I tell you it was you-you-you!"

For one year, the evil passions which be ame dominant upon that night, held sway with him; they grew, they blackened and corrupted his whole soul, and upon the next Christmas-day, reddened his hand with his brother's blood.

Five years since that day, Braxtonia lay with its sharp outlines lost in the gathering twilight, and with lights shining out here and there; and a wanderer and an outcast or the face of the earth was going home at last. Going home to confess his crime, and to plead his repentance and his good works since as an atonement, for if ever man truly repented after overwhelming sinful madness left him, it was this one; if ever man strived humbly and persistently by a life devoted to charitable deeds, to self-repression and self-purification to expiate one dark crime, it was this one.
And at last home and friends were close before.
him. Were they? For years he had had no word; death might have been in the circle there and death might have been in the circle there and he never have heard. But no! The parlor lights were ablaze, and showed him within the old father and mother, Aglae and a gentleman

who was Aglae's husband. Then he was within the hall and his hand upon the door, but there a rush of weakness came over him; he turned and entered a room near at hand, meaning to collect himself be-fore he appeared to them, and stopped all at once as if turned to stone.

A vision, rising from the depths of a great chair there, moved forward with outstretched hands, and a glad, incredulous light upon her

er to speak until Christmas-day, and then no hard feelings over the result, old boy?"

The brothers' hands met and were clasped over that compact, and though Neal rattled on of his hopes and his fears, Randolph said on of his hopes and his fears, Randolph said. "Justina!" he said, in an awed whisper.

"It is Randolph, at last. Not Justina, but Lucrece!" And before the others were made aware of his presence, he sat down there and she told him the story. The poison she had "Justina!" he said, in an awed whisper. not a word. His nature was one with intense depths; he had capacities for good or for evil thought; skillful medical aid had been instantly called, and after a long and uncertain battle, she was saved. Meanwhile, the tyrant who had so embittered her life, had fallen down in a fit, brought on by anger at thinking his victim had escaped him, and after a few days' miserable lingering, died and left her

free

"God is very good to me," she said, reverentially, at the last. "Ever since I have lived here among the kindest friends I have ever

"And I," he cried, brokenly. "I have wrecked my entire life. "There is comfort for you," she began

eagerly, and just at that the door opened, and Neal stood there; not the bright, boyish Neal of old, but his wasted semblance upheld by crutches, and wearing that subdued look which great physical suffering alone can give. "Dolph!" he exclaimed, joyously. "I knew

you would come some day, dear old fellow, but it has been long waiting. I wanted to re-lieve your mind of one load—to tell you of my escape, and that I don't much mind the scratches. That, and to see you happy. Lucrece!" She came at his call.
"Six years ago we two were going to ask

you to choose between us. If Randolph is of the same mind still—ah, it needs no words to say that he is-will you go to him now? I have long known he would have been your choice.

"Then," she said, "not now. The generos ity which could overcome all selfishness both of love and resentment, which led you, Neal, to follow him five years ago, for the of telling him what he has but now learned, has won my deepest love, my highest rever-

And Dolph realized bitterly that his one mad act, the fruit of evil passion, had lost him the prize; but the hard lesson he had learned stood him in good stead, and it was without envy he stood by and knew the happiness of those two was made perfect by a full understanding, upon that Christmas day.

Miss Lola Chaves, daughter of Colonel Fran-

isco J. Chaves, of Los Lumas, ex-delegate to Congress from New Mexico, was married to Don Mariano Arimjo, a wealthy planter of that name at Albuquerque, a few days ago. All the "uppertendom," for a few hundred miles round, received invitations. The arrival of the hour for the wedding was announced by the booming of artillery and the playing of a wedding march. Supper was provided for five hundred guests, and fully that number partook of refreshments. The band played and the young folks danced till daylight, and at sunrise the bride and groom and invited merry-makers repaired to the village church, where mass and prayers were offered for the happy couple. Breakfast, scarcely less elaborate the over, the newly-married pair, with their immediate attendants, proceeded in carriages to Los Lumas, followed by a procession of friends. Here the wedding reception lasted till eleven o'clock, but dancing, music and feasting con-

DER DRUMMER.

Who puts oup at der pest hotel. Und dakes his oysders on der shell, Und mit der frauleins cuts a schwell? Der drummer.

Who vas id gomes indo mine soltore, Drows down his pundles on der vloor, Und nefer schtops to shut ter dore? Der drummer.

Who dakes me py der handt und say: Hans Pfeiffer, how you vas to-day?'' Und goes for peesnis righdt avay? Der drummer.

Who shpreads his zamples in a trice, Und dells me, "Look, und see how nice!" Und says, I gets "der bottom price?" Der drummer. Who says der t'ings vas eggstra vine— Vrom Sharmany, ubon der Rhine''— Und sheats me den dimes oudt of nine? Der drummer.

Who dells how sheap der goots vas bought, Mooch less as vot I gould imbort, But lets dem go as he vaa "short?" Der drummer.

Who varrants all der goots to suit Der gustomers ubon his route, Und ven dey gomes dey vas no goot? Der drummer.

Who gomes around ven I been oudt, Drinks oup mine bier, and eats mine *kraut*, Und kiss Katrina in der mout? Der drummer.

Who, ven he gomes again dis vay, Vill hear vot Pfeiffer has to say, Und mit a plack eye goes avay? Dot drummer.

Beat Time's Notes.

MANY a nickle makes a mickle

SHEAR nonsense—a badly-cut suit. ALAS, how much misery must a man enjoy n this world before he wears a No. 7 boot!

BAR-GAINS: Money made in the saloon busi-In many cases when a bank is suspended the directors ought to be too.

How lonely a man feels when he is out of verything but debt!

FATHER: "What is all that racket on the Boy: "It is I, sir, rolling rapidly!"

LAKE NIANZA, it is said, does not consist of chain of five lakes. But it used to; Stanley piled them all up into one when he got there.

"AH," said a little boy, exhibiting a dirty hankderchief, "all the white is worn off of this Once on a time a little urchin—a little urch—well I forgot what I was going to say, since I come to think about it. I don't think

he did, either.

CUSTOMER: Sir, these boots are entirely too small; I shall not take them. Shoemaker: I beg your pardon; those boots are large enough for gracious sake, only your eet are too big.

The customer swore he'd stretch them over his head.

I HAVE been seriously thinking of willing five thousand dollars to the man who will prove to be the greatest friend to me for the rest of my life. Substantial favors in the shape of money could be sent to the under-signed. N. B.—Don't wait for references; I'll end them after the receipt of the donation.

THE greatest sorrow which I am called upon to bear is to see my poor, good wife get up these cold mornings and make the fire. I sometimes think I can't stand it much longer; that I will rebel if it costs the peace of the household. It makes my very heartache; I am a sensitive man of the most tender feeling for humanity; hence you can imagine how I rest and see her making the fire in the cold; and I shall use my utmost endeavors to have this stopped by the time warm weather comes, or make a fuss in the attempt

I AM a very terrible man. When I get mad my anger is as visible as the Northern Lights. I'm worse than the Keely motor broken loose. It has been said that I've got enough mad about me for five or six men. They have to throw buckets of water over me to cool me off, and then pack me away in ice for twentyour hours. I never lost my temper; it is always on hand at a moment's notice. I have got mad and chased myself all around the house, and if I hadn't escaped I would have got a dreadful licking. It is a shade worse than the hydrophobia.

Jew Clothing Dealer: "Ah, mine frien', dose coat fit you yoost so good as never vas. You vas yoost made for te coat. Long in te sleeves? Ah, dat sleeves vill shrink und shoost pe right. Tight under te arms? Vell, it vill stretch in two days. Ah, if you could yoost stand pack of yourself and see how goot you ooks py yourself in dis coat any more, you would dickle yourself in de ribs, und I lets you have him for dwenty-five dollars if you don't say any dings to nobody, und I only makes shoost seventy-five cents on it. No, not von ent less. Don't want it? Now, you shust look at dot coat again. I let you haf him for dwenty dollars, und I goes widout eading for dis coat? Ten dollars! You dink I'm a fool a leedle? You don't want dot coat! Say, look a leedle here. Hold on, I dell you what I'll do; you gif fifteen dollars for 'im! den! you dake him for ten dollars, und I dells you, mine frien', I don't makes fifteen cents on dot coat. I can stand it if you can, but you say noddings apout 'im und I won't. I should pe mighty glat to haf you call again somedimes. Goot day!

We shall commence in No. 305, JACK RABBIT The Prairie Sport; OR,
THE WOLF CHILDREN OF THE LLAND ESTAGADO. BY JOSEPH E. BADGER, JR.

Another Gem of Western Romance and Wild Life in the Fastnesses of the Great Wilderness where Civilization and Savage Barbarism are yet struggling for supremacy. In this field Mr. Badger is confessedly unrivaled, and in this brilliant story he leads the reader such a race with his hurrying events, his breathless perils and novel adventures that to miss the entertainment would be to lose a deep delight.